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'WE'VE BECOME WEATHER WIMPS!

There's an imperfect storm when it comes to forecasting, deciding when to bunker down. Page 6.



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ICELANDAIR



Proposed cut to PD days

Education. Parents react to question of axing them during school year



STEPHANIE
TAYLOR

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Professional development days might be over for Nova Scotia teachers during the school year — not to mention students — according to the province's Education Minister.

During a news conference Thursday, Karen Casey responded to the report of the Minister's Panel on Education, which was prepared last fall and lists numerous recommendations to improve the public school system.

One of the changes proposed by the minister: Rescheduling the eight professional development (PD) days outside the 195-day school year and moving them into teachers' vacation time.

Nixing these inservices were met with mixed feeling by parents who were picking up their children from Saint Joseph's

Alexander McKay School in Halifax on Thursday afternoon.

Heather, a mother of two elementary-aged daughters and a resident who chose not to disclose her last name, believes inservices offer an important break for students and benefits for teachers.

"I know my kids love PD days," she explained. "I don't mind them, so I don't really need to see them disappear."

Meanwhile, a nearby group of fathers felt axing PD days means, "More bang for your buck," because having students in classes for longer just increases time for learning and skill development.

But for parent Elizabeth Bell, inservice days pose a major nuisance for scheduling.

"A lot of people struggle with finding a sitter, or care for their kids," she said.

Bell calls herself "one of the lucky ones" who works from home and can adjust her days accordingly when her daughter, Ruth, has a day off, but knows many parents who aren't as fortunate.

More coverage, page 10



DINOMANIA IN HALIFAX

David Alexander MacDonald, exhibitions production manager for Dinosaurs Unearthed, adjusts a model outside the Museum of Natural History in Halifax on Thursday. The new exhibit opens Friday and is expected to be a big hit with people of all ages.

Coverage, page 13. JEFF HARPER/METRO



WEEKEND SPECIALS FRI - SUN

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'Sneckdowns' emerge after snowfall, throughout city

Winter. Snow outlines space for wider sidewalks, bike lanes unused by cars: group



HALEY RYAN

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As Halifax's recent snowfall showcased, "sneckdowns" are all over the city — and you might have used one today.

Sneckdowns, a term created as a mash-up of "snowy neckdowns," was coined in 2011 after a New Yorker filmed examples of snow built up along sidewalks and crosswalks in his city as a case for putting in curb extensions, or neckdowns, as some traffic experts call them.

"The roads get cleared where cars drive, so you end up having these curb extensions and pedestrian refuges ... where the cars just simply are not needing to go," said Blair Barrington of the Halifax Cycling Coalition.

"They're public spaces, and we can use them a lot more efficiently."

Sneckdowns literally outline space where sidewalks could be widened, bike lanes put in, or bump-outs created

On the web

Check out examples at sneckdownhalifax.tumblr.com or send in your own pictures from around the city.



A pedestrian crosses a sneckdown at the corner of Young and Robie streets on Wednesday. Sneckdowns, a term created as a mash-up of 'snowy neckdowns', was coined in 2011 after a New Yorker filmed examples of snow built up along sidewalks and crosswalks in his city as a case for putting in curb extensions, or neckdowns, as some traffic experts call them. JEFF HARPER/METRO

in crosswalks to make them shorter — all contributing to narrower streets as a traffic-calming measure.

"When you narrow streets to widths that are appropriate ... it makes them more enjoyable for everyone," Barrington said.

The perception that Halifax already has narrow streets is true in some areas of the peninsula, Barrington said,

but looking at the data on street widths in general this is not true for most of the busy arteries around HRM.

The Robie Street and Quinpool Road intersection, Morris and Queen streets, Hollis and Lower Water streets, or where Young Street meets Gottingen have sneckdowns, Barrington said.

Every foot of pavement in Halifax that isn't being used

still has to be maintained and paved, Barrington said.

"To have these streets so wide, and not being used, is a waste of money," Barrington said.

Pedestrian safety has been a hot topic in Halifax over the past two years as police and HRM try different technologies and campaigns to prevent collisions, and Barrington said conversation is good

but "the best way to change behaviour is to change environment."

"You can narrow a street, put in a pedestrian refuge, and it just happens. It doesn't feel like the driver's driving slower," Barrington said.

"Not only do they protect people, not only do they potentially save money and create a better environment, they just feel better."

'There was no danger': Lawyer in chemical case

A man accused of possessing dangerous chemicals that resulted in evacuations in Halifax and Ottawa believes he possessed them for legitimate reasons and they weren't intended for criminal purposes, his lawyer said Thursday.

Defence lawyer Mike Taylor said he will seek bail for Christopher Burton Phillips, who faces charges of uttering threats and possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose, when his case returns to court next week.

Taylor said he recognizes



Christopher Burton Phillips
THE CANADIAN PRESS

police may have thought they were protecting public safety when they evacuated two Halifax communities and a Ottawa hotel where

Phillips, 42, was arrested. But Taylor said the response may prove to have been an overreaction.

"I wouldn't be surprised if at the end of the day, once they've had a chance to determine a full shopping list of what was there and have a look at what the substances were and what they were potentially used for, that they'll be satisfied there was no danger,"

Taylor said outside provincial court in Dartmouth.

Police have alleged in a sworn information that Phillips threatened a po-

At a glance

During his brief court appearance Thursday, Christopher Phillips, a former U.S. citizen, sat quietly with his head bowed as the case was adjourned until next Thursday.

lice officer and possessed osmium tetroxide, a toxic chemical, for the purpose of committing an offence.

Taylor said the accusation that Phillips made a threat against police was

based on an email that he sent to a friend that made indirect reference to police.

"Quite frankly, I think it's been misconstrued ... I find a hard time finding a threat in that myself," he said, though he didn't elaborate on the content of the message.

Crown prosecutor Terri Lipton said Phillips was allowed to have up to 224 kilograms of osmium tetroxide.

"He didn't have anywhere near that," Lipton said outside court.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

1 NEWS

More safe spaces needed for people to open up: Fleury

Mental health.

Hockey star reflects on 'inspiring' stories brought out during 'Let's Talk' Day



HALEY
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A day after millions texted and tweeted to raise funds and awareness around mental health, Theo Fleury said the Internet became a "safe place" for their stories — but be cautioned that the conversation needs to continue in the days and months to come.

The former Stanley Cup winner, who starred for the Calgary Flames and New York Rangers, was in Halifax Thursday to promote Hockey Day in Canada and his new book, *Conversations with a Rattlesnake*.

Fleury has talked about being sexually abused by a former coach and struggling with depression and addiction. He said it was inspiring to see so many people discussing mental health during Bell's Let's Talk Day on Wednesday.

"When you get that kind of response to ... the biggest epidemic on the planet, it's people reaching out, saying,

"I'm one who has suffered in silence," Fleury said after a city hall event.

One issue is the lack of services and places for people to go to feel comfortable, Fleury said. Such support helped him get through his own anxiety and panic.

"It was just finding a safe place to unload this stuff and the Internet, yesterday, was the safest place in the world to do it."

The main issue now is keeping that conversation going, Fleury said, although one thing that holds people back is the shame and perception there's something wrong with you.

"No, the majority of the people that are on this planet have this issue," Fleury said, shaking his head. "When people are pointing their finger or judging, it's just a projection on themselves as how they feel. It doesn't have anything to do with you."

Fleury said his book is about how we need to create more safe places for people to open up.

"I've had over 500,000 people come up to me ... and say, 'Me, too,'" Fleury said.

"All I did was create a safe space by telling the truth of my story and I didn't care what anybody thought, and it's turned into something pretty incredible."

Quoted

"The courage that people showed yesterday on the Internet was incredibly inspiring."

Theo Fleury



Former NHL player Theo Fleury and Mayor Mike Savage joke around during a photo opportunity at Halifax City Hall on Thursday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Scotiabank Hockey Day in Canada

Without the fans there's 'no NHL'

Attention Cole Harbour residents: Theo Fleury may be stopping by.

On Thursday, the hockey star met Mayor Mike Savage at city hall to promote the upcoming Scotiabank Hockey Day in Canada, Feb. 11 to 14.

Highlights include a free skate with the Stanley Cup, musical performances by Fleury and The Barra Mac-

Neils, and screens live-broadcasting NHL games at the Oval hosted by Ron MacLean.

"Without the great hockey fans ... there is no NHL," Fleury told reporters. "Hockey is a part of the culture and it's bred into us, so there's no better place to

celebrate the game."

Fleury also pointed out two Cole Harbour natives are among the best players in the league — Sidney Crosby and Nathan MacKinnon.

"I'll make sure I drink some water there," he said with a smile.

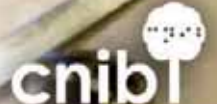
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Weather wimps or weather-wary? Depends who you ask

Debate. Some say Haligonians lost their spine when it comes to bad weather, while others argue we're struggling to be smart in the face of media hyperbole and forecaster vagaries



RUTH DAVENPORT
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From some points of view, it seems completely incongruous for anyone in Halifax to be labelled a weather wimp.

We have winter nor'easters and summer floods. We have temperatures that range from -30 C to 30 C. We travel by bicycle in the winter and surf in the teeth of hurricanes. We should really be dubbed weather warriors.

Yet after every major weather event, no matter how mild or how severe, there is the inevitable chorus of "We've become weather wimps!" Social media and talk shows suddenly abound with tales of how we never used to stay home in bad weather, schools never closed this often and we never needed no stinkin' storm chips.

But Environment Can-



A cyclist braves the weather conditions during Tuesday's storm. Others chose to stay indoors — is it fair to call them wimps? HALEY RYAN/METRO

ada's senior meteorologist — a veteran forecaster of 40 years — notes that Maritimers of yore might have been more fatalistic than tough, noting they had far fewer options for responding to, or anticipating, bad weather.

"We react (now) even before the first flake falls. We're spreading brine, we're cancelling schools," said Dave Phillips. "It used to be that you'd wait to handle the effects after the snow fell, then you'd get in

and clean up."

Phillips says our perceived weather wimpiness is a result of a "perfect storm" — har har — of an overly cautious forecasting industry trying to give best-case and worst-case scenarios to an overly hysterical media industry that focuses on the worst, selling fear to the social media echo chamber and public officials who tend to err on the side of caution.

But representatives for two organizations in Halifax that make those weather-related decisions say there's no increased sensitivity — or wimpiness — leading to more frequent closures or cancellations.

Doug Hadley of the Halifax Regional School Board says the board's default

position is that schools will be open unless it's unsafe for students to get to them. A decision to close is made by the board, the school-bus company, municipal and provincial officials, and sometimes even individual bus drivers after assessing conditions on the ground.

He says the board is cautious by nature because of the "disparate circumstances" at play but criticized as being excessively cautious by people who aren't seeing that big picture.

"Someone opening their blind in their home or apartment and seeing the conditions in front of their street and thinking we can apply that across the system, it rarely works out that way," he said, noting

that school closures fluctuate from year to year and aren't generally increasing.

Similarly, an HRM spokeswoman said the city's CAO consults with senior staff and weighs their recommendations before making the decision to close municipal offices and services.

Jennifer Stairs says it's not a decision that's made lightly, but the CAO will typically err on the side of caution.

"It's not just the safety of our own staff, it's the safety of people who might be travelling to customer-service centres, that kind of thing," she said.

Possibly adding to the perceived wimpiness is the way in which we assess the severity of weather events.

School closures

- 1: The number of board-wide school closures so far this year.
- 2: The number of board-wide school closures at this time last year.

Tuesday's storm left just 10 centimetres of snow in the Halifax area, prompting grumblings about a non-event — but Phillips says there was more to it than just the snowfall.

"With the winds, not only is it strong but it creates a new variable, the visibility," he said. "The criteria for what we consider historic or memorable, there's a multitude of elements in the timing and duration."

With increasingly extreme weather so inextricably woven into every aspect of a Canadian's life, perhaps it's not surprising that we take pride in being able to survive and even thrive in harsh conditions. And perhaps we take umbrage when that "pioneer spirit" isn't sufficiently challenged.

But Phillips says in a more connected, astute, accountable world, careful planning and sensible precautions shouldn't be mistaken for wimpiness.

"I think people recognize that they'd rather err on (the side of) caution," he said. "I think it's easier to defend, rather than trying to clean up the dead and injured and restoring life to normal when, hey, all the information was there and you didn't act on it."

Quoted

"We are always going to be damned if you do, damned if you don't. There will be those who feel we should never, never close and there are those who think we should always close."

Doug Hadley, Halifax Regional School Board



A pedestrian makes his way in downtown Halifax on Tuesday.

ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

More snow in store for province this weekend

More snow is in the forecast for Halifax, and just in time for the weekend.

Environment Canada has issued a special weather statement for Nova

Scotia, including Halifax, about a system that is forecast to hit the southwestern part of the province Friday evening and then reach Cape Breton by Saturday

morning.

The statement says the average snowfall will be 10 to 15 centimetres for most areas of Nova Scotia, with a changeover to ice pellets

and freezing rain, and then rain, expected.

Strong winds are also forecast, which could result in blowing snow.

RUTH DAVENPORT/METRO

Seasonal Disinfection Program

Halifax Water is seeking public input on proposed seasonal disinfection at its wastewater treatment facilities in Halifax, Dartmouth, Herring Cove and Eastern Passage. Seasonal disinfection means the wastewater discharged from these treatment facilities into the Halifax Harbour would continue to be disinfected between May 1st and October 31st, but not in the winter months from November to April (full disinfection would be in place prior to Polar Bear swims New Year's Day). From November to April, bacteria levels in the harbour will be elevated. Other than elevated bacteria levels, water quality in the harbour would not be affected as full screening of floatables and all other treatment processes will continue to operate year round. Seasonal disinfection would result in significant greenhouse gas reductions due to reduced consumption of electrical power for the ultraviolet light (UV) disinfection systems, as well as potentially extended UV equipment life at these facilities.

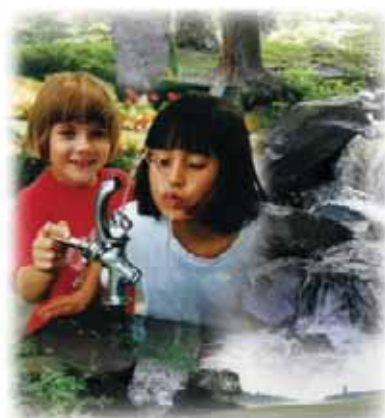
Numerous jurisdictions in Canada and the US allow for seasonal disinfection.

For more information on Halifax Water's proposed Seasonal Disinfection Program visit halifax.ca/hrwc/seasonal-disinfection.php

Written comments may be provided to:

James Campbell
Communications and
Public Relations Coordinator
Halifax Water
450 Cowie Hill Road
PO Box 8388, RPO CSC
Halifax, NS B3K 5M1

or email to: seasonaldisinfection@halifaxwater.ca



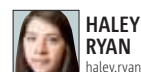
Comments will be accepted up to February 20, 2015.



The man and woman (noted by red arrow) in these photos are sought by police. COURTESY HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE

Man and woman sought in assault

Crime. Police had previously thought victim had slipped



HALEY RYAN
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Police are on the lookout for a man and a woman in connection with a serious assault they say occurred in the early hours of New Year's Day.

At 1 a.m., Halifax Regional Police responded to a report that a man had thrown a table through the front window of the Alterego Café on Gottingen Street.

Soon after that, officers

found the man lying on Cunard Street.

Police say he had serious head injuries, but believed at first he sustained those because of a fall, according to a release.

The man was taken to hospital by paramedics, and was still there as of Thursday. Police said investigators have yet to speak with the man due to the severity of his injuries.

On Jan. 22, police say, they received information the man had not fallen, but been assaulted, which was confirmed when they reviewed video surveillance of the area showing two suspects attacking the victim just before he was found by police.

The first suspect is de-

Investigation

Anyone with information about the identity of the suspects or this incident is asked to call police at 902-490-5016, or send anonymous tips to Crime Stoppers.

scribed as a white man in his 20s, five-foot-10, with a small build. He was wearing grey skinny jeans, a white shirt and a black jacket, with a long blue scarf wrapped around his neck.

The second suspect is described as a black woman in her 20s, with long black hair. She was wearing a long blue shirt and blue jeans.

Dealerships scammed out of more than \$50K

Halifax Regional Police are warning anyone selling a car to be wary of a new scam that has hit local dealerships.

Police spokesman Const. Pierre Bourdages says in the last week, two dealerships in Sackville and two dealerships in Dartmouth have lost more than \$50,000 worth of stolen vehicles due a new type of bank scam.

The scenario is basically this, he said: A person walks into these dealerships and agrees to purchase a vehicle via money transfer. Then, as soon as the dealers accept the money transfer, the suspect drives off.

Suspect

Investigators currently believe one suspect is at the centre of the scam. Police describe him as a white male in his 50s, six-foot-one, 300 pounds, with a thin moustache and dark hair.

Several days later, the dealership is informed by the bank that the funds were transferred through a fraudulent cheque.

Once a bank detects cheque fraud, Bourdages said, it cancels all subsequent

transactions on the account, thus erasing any paper trail.

"This scam could target really anybody who sells a car, even an individual: Could target a new dealership, could target an old dealership, could target anyone who accepts a money transfer," Bourdages explained Thursday.

He said the best way to protect yourself from the scam is to accept only credit cards, cash or certified cheques. In the case of accepting a money transfer, Bourdages advised to first consult with your bank to ensure the funds have been deposited in your account.

STEPHANIE TAYLOR/METRO

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Sorento SX AT AWD 7-Seat shown[†]
HWY / CITY 100KM[†] : 9.0L/12.7L

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Rio4 SX with Navigation shown[†]
HWY / CITY 100KM[†] : 5.3L/7.3L

2015 **RIO** LX MT

from **\$21** weekly for 69 payments **0%** financing for up to 84 months **\$0** down payment*

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Forte SX AT shown[†]
HWY / CITY 100KM[†] : 5.3L/8.0L

2015 **FORTE** LX MT

from **\$24** weekly for 62 payments **0%** financing for up to 84 months **\$0** down payment*

Includes up to "Half Price Payments" credit. \$24 weekly payment amount includes \$1,500 Half Price Payments Credit. Payments are based on 2015 Forte LX MT (F0541F) 84-month financing. After 62 weekly payments at \$24, the weekly payments will increase to \$48. Half Price Payments Credit may alternatively be taken as a one time lump sum payment.



Rondo EX Luxury shown[†]
HWY / CITY 100KM[†] : 6.3L/9.2L

2015 **RONDO** LX MT

from **\$31** weekly for 46 payments **0%** financing for up to 84 months **\$0** down payment*

Includes up to "Half Price Payments" credit. \$31 weekly payment amount includes \$1,500 Half Price Payments Credit. Payments are based on 2015 Rondo LX MT (RN756F) 84-month financing. After 46 weekly payments at \$31, the weekly payments will increase to \$63. Half Price Payments Credit may alternatively be taken as a one time lump sum payment.



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Teachers' union wants plan to change PD days scrapped

Education. Minister Casey wants to move days out of the school year, as parents are concerned that they're 'disruptive'

The head of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union says she is girding for a fight with the provincial government over two key proposals in a major report on education reform released Thursday.

Shelley Morse wants Education Minister Karen Casey to scrap her plan to have teachers use their professional development days during their vacation instead of the school year.

The 10,000-member union is also opposed to Casey's promise to remove principals and school board administrators from the union, she said.

Casey said the two issues will be dealt with through negotiations with the union,

Report

Karen Casey said the report released Thursday is important because the latest round of elementary school assessments confirmed a "disturbing" trend: Fewer students are meeting expectations in the classroom.

- They showed that at most school boards, test scores in reading, writing and mathematics had declined when compared with last year.

which is getting ready for contract talks this spring.

The eight professional development days are guaranteed in the teachers' collective agreement, but Casey said they should not be part of the 195-day school year.

"One of the concerns that parents have is that (professional development days) ... are disruptive when students are



Education Minister Karen Casey is calling for big changes in the province's schools. JEFF HARPER/METRO FILE

off," she said.

Morse said Casey's suggestion to take the professional development days outside the school year won't work.

"If we need to have math in-servicing, we would like it done during the school year when we are actually teaching the math," she said.

As for removing principals and administrators from the union, Casey said a recent report from an expert panel concluded that parents were

concerned about having school supervisors and teachers in the same union.

Casey said that arrangement is virtually unheard of outside of Nova Scotia.

There are dozens of other changes proposed in Casey's sweeping 50-page report, but many of them won't happen unless the teachers' union agrees.

The minister said she wants to draft policies that will set provincewide standards for homework and a classroom code of conduct, but she declined to offer details, saying teacher input was needed.

However, Casey said she is committed to having the province's auditor general investigate Nova Scotia's eight elected school boards. Auditor General Michael Pickup will examine how the boards are structured and how they spend public funds, she said.

Over the years, some school boards have proven to be so dysfunctional that the government has had to step in to take them over. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Details on '15 ferry season coming next week: Minister



The Nova Star CANADIAN PRESS FILE

The Nova Scotia government is poised to announce an agreement next week for the 2015 sailing season for the ferry between Yarmouth and Maine.

But neither Premier Stephen McNeil or Economic Development Minister Michel Samson would confirm a new contract has been finalized with current operators Nova Star Cruises after Thursday's cabinet meeting.

McNeil said the directive

By the numbers

6

The number of months the Nova Star was in operation last year.

out of cabinet was to continue with negotiations, while Samson would only say he would provide details for the upcoming sailing season at a news conference scheduled for

Tuesday in Yarmouth.

To date, the provincial government has provided Nova Star with \$28.5 million in funding, including a \$21-million seven-year loan that was spent in the first two months of last year's inaugural season.

Meanwhile, Samson said he would meet with the province's conflict of interest commissioner on Friday.

The Opposition Progressive Conservatives have asked the commissioner to investigate

comments made by Samson over the amount of money given to the ferry operators.

The Tories argue Samson was not "truthful or forthright" two weeks ago, when he said that the government hadn't given them more than the \$26 million in public funds disclosed to that point. Samson later confirmed that he had known about \$2.5 million in additional spending since Dec. 23.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tourism. Report reveals rise in visitors to Halifax

Nova Scotia welcomed more than a million tourists in 2014, according to recent numbers from the province's department of economic and rural development, released Thursday.

As of the end of November, 1.8 million people had visited Nova Scotia, with more than half arriving during the peak season June to September.

The new tourism stats reported a significant growth in a number of key markets, includ-

ing New England, which accounted for the largest increase in visitors.

The new 2014 figures also cite a five per cent growth in accommodation revenue, which is largest increase in room nights sold in one year since 2002.

While the year-to-date overall visitation in November was flat compared to 2013, last year saw a seven per cent increase in visits via air travel. **METRO**



A cruise ship docked in Halifax this summer. METRO FILE

Acadia faculty union wants return to bargaining table

The Acadia University Faculty Association will be returning to the negotiating table on Friday.

The provincial conciliator called the union's chief negotiator Jan. 28, AUFA spokesman Andrew Biro said, indicating that the university's board of governors has expressed a willingness to return to the table.

"We were asked if our team

was available for Friday, Jan. 30, and we immediately affirmed that we were," Biro said.

Peter Williams, the spokesman for the board of governors, also confirmed the new talks had been set up.

On Jan. 22, AUFA members voted to reject the board of governor's last offer. Members have expressed frustration about cuts to

Quoted

"We were asked if our team was available ... and we immediately affirmed that we were."

AUFA spokesman Andrew Biro

the number of tenure-track faculty. **KINGS COUNTY REGISTER**



The boat that Phillip Boudreau was on before his death is pictured on Nov. 18, 2014. ALY THOMSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

14 years for manslaughter

Cape Breton.

Fisherman Joseph James Landry given credit for time served

Quoted

"You shattered so many lives."

Margaret Rose Boudreau, victim's sister

Phillip Boudreau's death at sea has torn apart a fishing village in Cape Breton and could reverberate in the community for decades, a Nova Scotia judge said Thursday as he sentenced a fisherman to 14 years in prison for manslaughter.

Joseph James Landry, who shot, ran over and hooked Boudreau with a fishing gaff, was granted about 2.5 years' credit for time served in custody awaiting trial, meaning he would serve about 11.5 years behind bars.

Boudreau's slaying has affected many people in the Acadian village of Petit-de-Grat, said Judge Joseph Kennedy of the Nova Scotia Supreme Court.

"The repercussions will endure for years, perhaps decades," Kennedy said.

"It has, as the Crown suggested, torn at the fabric of a close-knit traditional area of this province, causing dissension and divide and disharmony amongst the good, hard-working, honest people, many of whom depend on the lobster fishery for their livelihood."

A jury convicted Landry, 67, of manslaughter in November after hearing that Boudreau was the victim of a sustained attack at the mouth of a local harbour on June 1, 2013.

The 43-year-old man's body has never been found.

In a victim impact statement, Boudreau's sister spoke of the anguish she felt "knowing his body was left discarded like old bait."

"You took the life of a son, a brother and an uncle," Margaret Rose Boudreau told Landry, crying and often pausing to compose herself.

Landry stared at her as she spoke, his facial expression unchanged.

The Crown had sought a 15-year prison term while the defence asked for a sentence of seven years, minus 2.5 years credit for time served.

Crown attorney Shane Russell said Kennedy's sentencing decision was fair.

"He emphasized that vigilante justice is not to be tolerated," Russell said outside court in Port Hawkesbury. "In his words, this was a near-murder scenario."

But defence lawyer Luke Craggs said he thinks the sentence is excessive and will likely appeal.

"That's the sort of sentence career criminals and gangsters get for manslaughter, not guys who have fished for 52 years and pay their taxes and earned an honest living," said Craggs.

Landry will become eligible for parole once he serves a third of his 11.5-year sentence. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Court

Both sides of 'murder for lobster' case

CROWN CASE:

The Crown charged Joseph James Landry, 67, with second-degree murder, telling the jury that Phillip Boudreau's death was the result of a sustained attack by

a three-man lobster fishing crew on board a boat called the Twin Maggies after their traps were cut.

Crown attorney Steve Drake told the jury the Twin Maggies rammed the 43-year-old man's speedboat three times at the mouth of Petit de Grat harbour on June 1, 2013.

Prosecutors also said Landry fired four shots from a rifle, one of which hit Boudreau in the leg.

Drake said Boudreau's boat overturned after it was rammed the third time and he was then hooked with a fishing gaff and dragged out to sea before he was tied to an anchor.

DEFENCE CASE:

Defence lawyer Luke Craggs said the testimony of a key witness, deckhand Craig Landry, was flawed.

He said the Crown's argument that Landry gaffed Boudreau and dragged him out to sea was unbelievable because it would have been difficult to hook the man's body from the deck of the Twin Maggies.

He also discounted a statement his client gave to police where Joseph Landry says he fired four shots at Boudreau, arguing the fisherman was taking the blame to protect others. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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Forest school aims to get kids away from screens, into green

Education. Outdoor program will feature shelter-building, hiking and storytelling

SYDNEY JONES

halifax@metronews.ca

A new outdoor education program is set to get kids out of the classroom and into forests, creeks, bogs and meadows.

Launching this spring in a forested area behind Kearney Lake is Wild Child Forest School, a new program that provides a space for pre-school-age children to play and learn about their local environment.

"It scares me what's happening with kids with the amount of time they are spending on electronics," said Sally Trower, who is the co-ordinator of the new school.

"The kids don't know how to play outdoors anymore."

Trower, who lives in Purcell's Cove with her husband and two children, said she has noticed a large decline in the number of children who play outside around her community.

She said the forest school, which partners with the Maskwa Aquatics Club and Sierra Club Atlantic, is an opportunity for children to have a lifestyle balanced between nature and technology.

"It's all about getting kids

Other schools

Wild Child Forest School will be one of only a few forest schools to open in Atlantic Canada. The first, located in Roachville, N.B., was opened in Sept. 2013.

to question their environment," said Trower.

The forest school takes place entirely outside and Trower says they will have children engaging in activities like arts and crafts, storytelling, fire- and shelter-building, hiking, tool work and the naming of local wildlife and plants.

Trower said that examining the rings of fallen trees, measuring tree width, and examining the texture of bark in different species are all ways in which biology, art, and math are incorporated into the program.

"What we are advocating with forest schools is less screen time and more green time," said Trower.

The space chosen for the school is in an area where small and controlled fires are permitted, a factor which Trower said is crucial to the program.

"It's really important for kids to get together and focus around that fire, it's incredibly calming," said the 48-year-old.

Storytelling is an important part of the forest school philosophy, as Trower ex-



Seven-year-old Samantha Garvey gets some sawing tips from Sally Trower in the woods around Frog Pond this week. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Quoted

"It's all about getting kids to question their environment."

Wild Child Forest School co-ordinator Sally Trower

plained that fires provides a space where children can share stories with their peers.

Trower, whose 10-year-old son suffers from severe ADHD, said the program is helpful for children who

have ADHD or trouble focusing in class.

"They are so involved with using their senses: their sound, touch, taste, sight. It's completely experiential for a kid outdoors; they don't get that in a classroom situation," she said.

In May 2014, Trower said, she took a Forest and Nature School Practitioners course

in Ontario, a week-long program geared to teach things like ecological impact, safety factors and shelter-building.

"As practitioners, we are learning alongside the children," she said.

The Forest School will start as a six-week program, offering half-day and full-day sessions with small groups of five or six children.

Media. Veteran journalist Kevin McIntosh dead at 64

Kevin McIntosh, a long-time journalist and key figure in the digital transformation of TC Media newsrooms, died this week in a Halifax hospital.

McIntosh, 64, had cancer. He retired just last month after an active and busy career. At the time of his retirement, he was the content director for TC Media's Atlantic and Saskatchewan newspapers, which include the Hants Journal, Kings County Advertiser, Kings County Register, Annapolis Spectator, Digby Courier, Yarmouth Vanguard, Shelburne Coast Guard

and Queens County Advance.

McIntosh was a graduate of Conestoga College in Kitchener, Ont. He began his journalism career at the Guelph Mercury in February 1973. Later, after a short stint at the Kitchener Record, he joined the Windsor Star, where he had a long career.

In 1979, while with the Star, he was a finalist for a Michener Award for public service journalism.

He joined Transcontinental during the first decade of the 2000s. In one of his duties, he served as editor of the Halifax Daily News. **TC MEDIA**

Sackville teen to be honoured at game

Nearly a week after news of Sackville teen Rylee Sears' death rocked the community and broader Halifax region, the local minor hockey association is hoping to fill the Sackville Arena for a benefit in the young hockey player's honour.

From 5 to 6:30 p.m. Sunday, the Sackville Minor Hockey Association's midget A and B teams are playing at the Sackville Arena in "A Game to Remember: RS17 for Sears".

Sears died on Monday from meningococcal meningitis.

Many have been using the hashtag #RS17 in their posts on social media to remem-

ber the Sackville High School Grade 10 student, who wore No. 17 on his hockey jersey.

Media reports last week cited Capital Health officials who said lab results confirmed Sears had meningococcal meningitis.

Sackville High School student Alyssa Morris, 16, told Metro on Monday she heard Sears was put in a medically induced coma, but was shocked to find out he had passed away.

Donations will be accepted at the door, and a 50/50 draw and other events are planned.

METRO



A rendering of a tribute jersey for Rylee Sears, the young hockey player who died from meningococcal meningitis this week. FACEBOOK

New 'Dinosaurs Unearthed' exhibit ready to roar at Halifax museum

Prehistory. The hulking reptiles will be on display until the end of May, featuring a new feathered T-rex species



STEPHANIE TAYLOR
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There's just something about dinosaurs.

Maybe it's their monstrous size or our fascination with their prehistoric life, but even though they disappeared 65 million years ago — just as our primate ancestors were starting to evolve — we're enthralled by these larger-than-life extinct reptiles.

Jeff Gray, curator of visitor experience at the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History in Halifax, compares the new-

Quoted

"Almost unlike anything else we do in the museum, dinosaurs seem to speak to everyone."

Jeff Gray, curator of visitor experience at the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History

est dinosaur exhibit — Dinosaurs Unearthed — to the Olympics. Dinomania garners so much excitement, the museum brings the exhibits in every four years.

"Almost unlike anything else we do in the museum, dinosaurs seem to speak to everyone ... age, demographic, economic background, race," he said Thursday.

"It seems to make adults into little kids, and it makes little kids into adults."

Although dino bones are nothing new to the museum, he explained what makes this latest exhibit unique is that it



A Halifax TV reporter snaps a photo of an animatronic juvenile Tyrannosaurus rex during a preview of Dinosaurs Unearthed, a new exhibit at the Museum of Natural History that opens to the public on Friday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

combines all the best parts of a dinosaur show into one: fossils, interactive displays, dig pits, and of course, robotic dinosaurs.

"The robots are going to be the big draw," Gray explained, saying the show boasts four different mechanical dinos, with other displays

of 13 species in total.

He anticipates one of the exhibit highlights to be a roaring Tyrannosaurus rex skull that jumps out from

Old dino bones

The province is home to Canada's oldest dinosaurs, which are about 200 million years old, according to the Nova Scotia Museum.

one of the walls, "which will be memorable, possibly too memorable for some of our younger visitors.

As with any dino show, Gray believes the T-rex will reign as king for audiences, but adds the exhibit challenges people's dinosaur knowledge and features findings from some of the world's most recent discoveries in paleontology.

For example, visitors can see a new species of T-rex that has feathers, as well as fossils from recent digs in China.

The exhibit opens today and runs until May 24.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES ON FEBRUARY 16

NOVA SCOTIA HERITAGE DAY, HONOURING VIOLA DESMOND

As this is a provincial statutory holiday, many of our residents will still depend on services such as Transit and 311. Halifax Regional Municipality will operate on a reduced service level to minimize service disruptions to our citizens. Please note that all essential services will be maintained.

311 AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRES

Our 311 Citizen Contact Centres will be open with call centres and our online service centres available during regular business hours. Our Customer Service Centres will be closed.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The Municipality's major recreation facilities will be open while others may be closed. Program delivery at these locations will be rescheduled. Please call your facility or 311 for more information.

RESIDENTIAL GARBAGE COLLECTION

There will be no garbage, organics or recyclable collection services on February 16, 2015. Collection services for that day will be provided the preceding Saturday, February 14.

TRANSIT

Halifax Transit bus and ferry services will be operating on holiday schedule. Visit Halifax.ca/transit for further details on routes and schedules.

HALIFAX

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT
HALIFAX.CA/HOLIDAYSCHEDULE



New play explores love, sex and stress in a time before birth control

Liisa Repo-Martell, left, and Rebecca Parent act out a scene from Neptune Theatre's production of *What a Young Wife Ought to Know* during a media preview at the Scotiabank Studio Stage on Thursday. The play opened Thursday night and runs until Feb 8. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Television

N.S. businessmen practise hard to take on Dragons

On Wednesday night, Nova Scotians will have the opportunity to witness a couple of local men journey into the Dragons' Den.

The footage, which was shot last year, will appear next week and shows Pictou County's own Jeff Davis and Seth Rozee pitching their idea on the CBC venture-capital show.

Stashbelt is a business they founded, and its product is a special type of money belt. The men say the company could provide profit for themselves as well as desperately needed jobs for people in Kenya.

Rozee said he can't offer any spoilers, but says it was an incredible experience to be part of the show.

"Our invitation was rather unexpected," he said. "Jeff ... applied on a whim, and they liked this so much they contacted him. We were selected out of 3,000."

Once they made the first cut, there was a lot of work to get prepared to make their perfect pitch. They were assigned an executive producer with CBC, and through Skype video calls they practised their script as well as potential questions that the panel might present.

That was followed by a week and a half in Toronto of even more intense practice.

NEW GLASGOW NEWS

Couch surfing to life coaching

Entrepreneur. Self-help book the result of a life of struggle and tenacity

It's easy to identify with — and admire — a person who picks himself up after a fall.

Ricky Goodall can remember a time when he was living day to day and never knew where his next meal would

come from.

"When I was 22, I was homeless and jobless for a while, sleeping on couches and having a tough time getting by," said the 31-year-old New Glasgow native, now a businessman living in Halifax.

Goodall was in and out of foster homes as a child. He supported himself in a small apartment in New Glasgow by working at a fast-food restaurant

while he finished high school.

"I was on my own when I was 15," he recalled.

Before moving to Halifax about eight years ago, Goodall was homeless and jobless, tricking restaurants into giving him free food.

"I used to tell them they forgot food in my drive-through order, so they would give me something to eat."

When he finally did make

Crowdfunding

To help him get his book published, Goodall is asking people to pre-order copies at \$31 a pop. Visit whataretheelements.com.

the move to the city, Goodall worked as a bouncer at bars while earning his degree in

business administration and marketing at the NSCC campus in Dartmouth.

Soon after, he started a small business at the Titans mixed-martial-arts gym, where he sold supplements.

A meditation instructor and certified nutrition coach, Goodall is now entering the publishing world with a self-help book entitled *The Elements*.

NEW GLASGOW NEWS



BRING IT ON.

Snow doesn't have to be a bad word.

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halifax.ca/snow

HALIFAX



That time a garbage truck landed on your car

Luckily no one was inside this Toyota Yaris Thursday morning when a garbage truck slid down an embankment and landed on top of the parked hatchback. The accident happened at 10 a.m. at Sinclair and Berwick streets in Dartmouth.

JEFF HARPER/METRO

Man, 23, killed in five-vehicle crash

Highway 101. Hants County resident got pinned between a van and a Nova Scotia Power truck

A 23-year-old Hants County man is dead and four people injured following a multi-vehicle collision on Highway 101 Thursday morning that involved a Nova Scotia Power truck.

Police say the Saturn car the Hants County man was driving was pinned between a cube van driven by a 50-year-old man from Kings County and the Nova Scotia Power truck.

Quoted

"If there is anybody who witnessed the accident ... we'd still like to hear from them."

Windsor RCMP Const. Andrew Standen

The utility truck, driven by a 56-year-old from Dartmouth, was towing a Volkswagen that collided with a Hyundai Accent.

The 43-year-old Kings County man driving the Accent, a 24-year-old female passenger in the cube van, the driver of the cube van and driver of the Nova Scotia Power truck were all treated

by paramedics for minor injuries and released.

Five vehicles were involved in the accident, including the Nova Scotia Power service truck and an unoccupied vehicle that was being towed.

First responders closed the eastbound lanes between Mount Uniacke and St. Croix, which stayed shutdown all day.

"The road conditions were pretty poor so that made it a little more difficult (to reopen the road), a little more unsafe on scene," said Windsor RCMP Const. Andrew Standen.

The fact that the Nova Scotia Power truck briefly caught fire on impact meant towing crews had to proceed with caution. **HANTS JOURNAL**

Dartmouth

Charges possible after 13-year-old hit on crosswalk

Police are investigating over possible charges after a young girl on a crosswalk

was hit by a vehicle on Thursday afternoon.

The incident happened in the 0 to 100 block of Highfield Park Drive in Dartmouth.

The 13-year-old victim was on the crosswalk when she was hit, according to

police.

She suffered minor injuries and was taken to hospital by paramedics as a precaution.

Police say they are still investigating to determine if charges are warranted against the driver. **METRO**

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Chief defends troops directing airstrikes in Iraq

Military. Top soldier says Canadian troops directing airstrikes is not a 'combat' role and falls within mission mandate

Canada's top soldier says he authorized troops to help Iraqi security forces target Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) fighters, but denies that can strictly speaking be called a "combat" role.

Speaking before a parliamentary committee on Thursday, Chief of Defence Staff Tom Lawson told MPs that Canadian Forces have operated within their noncombat mandate, even while directing CF-18 airstrikes. Lawson told the committee he "had not anticipated" Canadian special forces would be in a position to safely direct airstrikes when he ruled them out last October.

"What I had not anticipated at that time in October was that those tactical air controllers would be able to develop techniques that would allow them, in the relative safety of their advise and assist positions, to be able to help the ... Iraqi security forces bring weaponry of coalition bombers to bear," Lawson explained his reversal. "So in fact I provided them, within the advise and assist mission, the authority to go ahead with that, well within the mandate given to us by the government."

By the numbers

63%

A new poll shows support remains strong for CF-18 air strikes in Iraq. The poll, released by Forum Research, found that 63 per cent of Canadians somewhat or strongly approve the Conservatives' decision to send six CF-18 fighter jets for airstrikes in Iraq.

Lawson, flanked by Defence Minister Rob Nicholson and Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird, found himself in the middle of a war of words about the precise role of Canada's fight against ISIL.

For the government, the mission has "evolved" since it was approved by Parliament — without the support of the opposition NDP and Liberals — late last year. This evolution, for the Conservatives, explains why Canadian soldiers found themselves under fire on the front lines three separate times, despite a mission limited to advising and assisting Iraqi troops.

For the opposition, Canada's role in the fight against ISIL has not been defined, no budget has been released and no clear goal outside of "degrading and destroying" the self-proclaimed caliphate has been outlined.

Frustration among opposition MPs was evident, in the face of Conservative backbenchers suggesting they're insufficiently behind the troops for asking those questions.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



\$13 million lost in seven seconds

Joel Ifergan stands beside a copy of his lottery ticket Thursday at his home in Montreal. The Supreme Court of Canada refused to hear his case claiming he is owed \$13 million for having the winning numbers on a ticket that was printed seven seconds after the deadline. Ifergan bought two lottery tickets in May 2008, but the one with the eventual winning combination popped out of the terminal seven seconds after the 9 p.m. deadline. As Ifergan discovered the next day, his Super 7 ticket had all the right numbers but was dated for the following week.

PHOTO: RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS
TEXT: THE CANADIAN PRESS

Politics. Omnibus bill to expand anti-terror powers

Prime Minister Stephen Harper will unveil Friday details of an omnibus bill that will enact two new laws, and make amendments to the Criminal Code, the CSIS Act, and the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act among a host of others.

It's not clear whether the Conservatives are prepared to boost the budgets of national security agencies, a key focus of Opposition criticism.

The government put the Commons on notice that funding will attach to the measures, but a senior government official said it shouldn't be interpreted as new funding, rather is in-

tended to provide authority to spend for a new purpose.

The prime minister has chosen the riding of Richmond Hill to make the announcement.

Harper will press the need to increase information-sharing among federal departments and agencies, authorize CSIS to disrupt or diminish threats earlier in an investigation, deter and order the removal of on-line content that promotes terrorism, enhance "no-fly" rules for airline travellers deemed a risk, and lower the evidentiary threshold for peace bonds — court-ordered restrictions on a person's liberty and communications. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Health. Flu vaccine does little against H3N2 strain

This year's flu vaccine offers little or no protection in Canada against becoming sick enough to require medical care, a study published Thursday suggests.

The research, based on data from British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec, found the vaccine offers most people virtually no protection against the strain that's causing the lion's share of the illness this year, H3N2. There weren't enough cases of flu caused by H1N1 or influenza B viruses to assess whether the vaccine would have been more protective against them.

That may change as the flu season progresses, but for now, this year's shot's performance

Flu season

Dr. Danuta Skowronski said the message people should take from the study is that if they are at high risk of developing pneumonia or getting seriously ill if they contract influenza, they should take other steps to protect their health.

looks pretty dismal.

"I would say overall it's signalling no protection," said lead author Dr. Danuta Skowronski, an influenza expert at the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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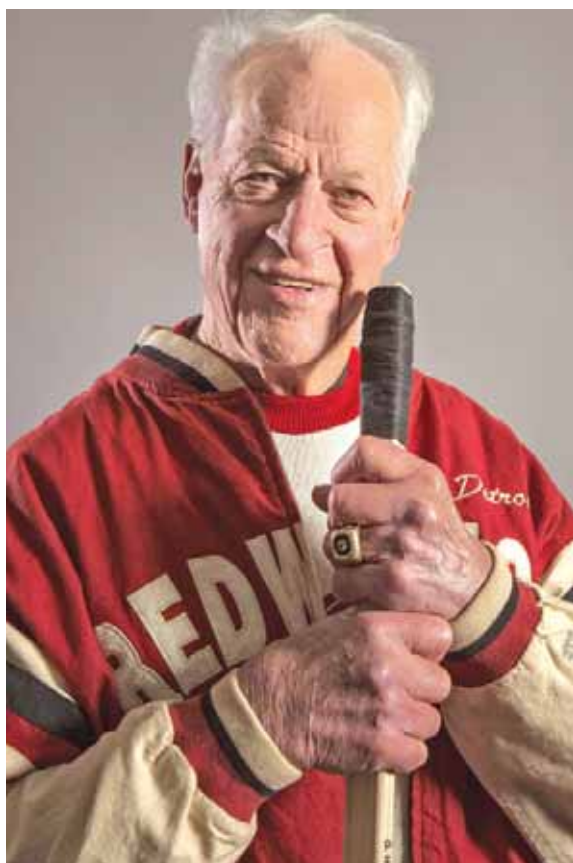
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Gordie Howe, 86, is taking treatment in Mexico, which have improved his stroke symptoms, his son Marty says. PAUL HORTON/NEUE STUDIOS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gordie Howe's treatment is working: Son

Health. Hockey legend's stem cell therapy raises concerns among regenerative medicine experts

Gordie Howe's son says the hockey legend's stroke symptoms have improved since his treatment with stem cells at a Mexican clinic in early December and he wants him to repeat the procedure.

But regenerative medicine experts say there's no scientific evidence such therapies work, and in some cases they can be seriously harmful or even deadly.

The 86-year-old Howe suffered two disabling strokes late last year.

In December, the family took him to a Tijuana clinic where he received stem cell injections as part of a clinical trial being run under a licensing agreement with Stemmedica Cell Technologies

Experts cautious

Mick Bhatia, director of McMaster University's Stem Cell and Cancer Research Institute, said there are many unknowns in Howe's case, such as how many stem cells were administered, were tests done to see whether they migrated to the target area.

of San Diego, Calif.

The experimental treatment involved injecting neural stem cells into Howe's spinal canal, along with intravenous infusions of mesenchymal stem cells, which are found in bone marrow, fat and umbilical cord blood.

Marty Howe said his father can walk again, his speech is improving and he is regaining some of the weight he lost following the strokes.

"The doctor told us it was kind of an awakening of the body." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Manitoba bad for First Nations: Feds

Federal government documents show Manitoba is one of the worst places for First Nations people to live in Canada.

Internal reports from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development show Manitoba natives are more likely to grow up in poverty, drop out of school, live off social assistance in dilapidated housing and suffer family violence.

Their life expectancy is

also eight years shorter than that of other Manitobans.

The 10 regional updates spanning 2012 to 2014 lay out the poor living conditions on Manitoba reserves, but offer little concrete action on the part of the government.

They were obtained by The Canadian Press through access-to-information legislation.

"Based on the UN Human Development Index, quality

of life on Manitoba First Nations ranks the lowest in Canada," said an update dated July 2014.

Another update dated from September 2013 notes that 25 per cent of First Nations children live in poverty across Canada. In Manitoba, it said, 62 per cent of aboriginal children live below the poverty line.

The 2014 report also noted that, at 28 per cent, the prov-

ince has the lowest high-school graduation rate for First Nations in the country.

Manitoba First Nations also have the highest social assistance rates in Canada, the documents show.

In some communities, 80 per cent of the population is on welfare. Just under two per cent of the population has come off social assistance and moved on.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Cold War. Gorbachev warns West of Hot War

Ex-Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev says the confrontation between Russia and the West could spill into all-out war.

More than 5,100 people have been killed in a bloody conflict in eastern Ukraine between government troops and pro-Russian separatists. Ukraine accuses Russia of aiding the separatists while Russia says the West is behind Ukraine's attempts to retake the rebel-held areas.

Gorbachev, in comments to the Interfax news agency, said Thursday the West has "dragged" Russia into a new Cold War and warned of risks of a military confrontation.

"I can no longer say that this Cold War will not lead to a 'Hot War.' I fear that they could risk



Ex-Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.
GETTY IMAGES

it," he was quoted as saying.

Gorbachev was one of the architects of the peaceful dismantling of communist rule in eastern Europe.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Malaysia. Government says Flight 370 an accident

Malaysia's government formally declared still-missing Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 an accident on Thursday and said all those on board were presumed dead, paving the way for compensation claims but angering victims' families still waiting for evidence of the plane's fate.

Civil aviation chief Azharuddin Abdul Rahman said the search for the jet would continue and "remains a priority." The Boeing 777 disappeared on March 8, 2014, while flying from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing with 239 people on board.

The plane is believed to have crashed in the southern Indian Ocean, off the coast of western

Australia. No confirmed debris has ever been found.

The declaration will help facilitate financial claims by families, and Malaysia Airlines is ready to proceed with the compensation process, Azharuddin said.

"After 327 days and based on all available data as well as circumstances ... survivability in the defined area is highly unlikely. It is therefore with the heaviest heart and deepest sorrow that we officially declare Malaysia Airlines Flight MH370 an accident," he said in a pre-recorded statement broadcast on Malaysian television.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Loved ones plead for ISIL hostages

Jordan. Prisoner swap would run counter to government's stance on extremism

The father of a Jordanian fighter pilot and the wife of a Japanese journalist held by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) pleaded for their loved ones' lives after a possible prisoner swap wasn't carried out by a deadline of sunset Thursday.

The extremists had demanded that Jordan release a female al-Qaida prisoner from death row, and they purportedly threatened in an audio message to kill the airman if she was not freed by the deadline.

After sundown in the Middle East, there was no word on the fate of Lt. Muath al-Kaseasbeh and journalist Kenji Goto, and the families' agonizing wait dragged on.

"We received no assurances from anyone that he is alive," Jawdat al-Kaseasbeh, a brother of the pilot, told The Associated Press. "We have no clue about where the negotiations stand now. We are waiting, just waiting."

The possibility of a swap was raised Wednesday when Jordan said it was willing to



Safi al-Kaseasbeh, centre, father of Jordanian pilot Lt. Muath al-Kaseasbeh, who is held by ISIL, reads a statement for the media urging his son's captors to have mercy on a fellow Muslim and spare his life, at the captured pilot's tribal gathering divan, in Amman, Jordan. NASSER NASSER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

trade Sajida al-Rishawi, the al-Qaida prisoner, for the pilot.

However, the audio message purportedly posted by ISIL only said the pilot would be killed if al-Rishawi was not delivered to the Turkish border by the deadline. There was no mention of Goto and no word on whether the pilot would be traded for the woman. The authenticity of the recording could not be verified independently by The Associated Press.

On Thursday afternoon, Jordan's government spokesman, Mohammed al-Momani, signalled that, in any case, a swap was on hold because the hostage-takers had not delivered proof the pilot is still alive.

Al-Rishawi, 44, faces death by hanging for her role in a suicide bombing, one of three simultaneous attacks on Amman hotels in November 2005 that killed 60 people. She survived because her belt of

explosives didn't detonate. She initially confessed, but later recanted, saying she was an unwilling participant.

Al-Rishawi, who is from the Iraqi city of Ramadi, has close family ties to the Iraqi branch of al-Qaida, a precursor of ISIL. Three of her brothers were al-Qaida operatives killed in fighting in Iraq.

Jordan has faced tough choices in the hostage drama.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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WEEKEND, January 30-February 1, 2015

BUSINESS

19

Toronto teen a student of the investing game

Stock market.

Brandon Fleisher, 17, has doubled his initial \$50k investment over the course of one year



GILBERT NGABO
Metro in Toronto

Call him the pup of Bay Street. At 17, Brandon Fleisher understands the ins and outs of stock markets like a, well, wolf.

The Grade 12 student at Toronto's Upper Canada College has, within a year, doubled his initial investment of \$50,000. He also started a company through which he offers free stock market analysis.

Fleisher picked up an interest in the stock exchange world when he was in Grade 8.

"In a math class, we all had to pick a stock and grow the



Brandon Fleisher has got a solid start in stock market investing at the ripe young age of 17. DAVID VAN DYKE/METRO

most out of it by the end of the year," he said. "I did very well, then started playing virtual stock-exchange games with fake money, and it really gave me the thrill."

Not too long after, Fleisher started spending entire days combing through companies' financial reports and studying balance sheets.

It took about two years of balancing school workload and

his passion for running a virtual portfolio before he got the chance to invest real money. Fascinated by his success and skills in the markets, Fleisher's parents gave him money to set up an account with a broker.

"I worked really hard to gain the trust from my parents to invest real money in my portfolio," he said, explaining that he was making big profits in the fake money trade, where

Quoted

"I worked really hard to gain the trust from my parents to invest real money in my portfolio."

Brandon Fleisher, investing whiz

he invested in Netflix and Tesla.

He has since broadened his network of investors, and his company, The Financial Bulls, is now operated with him as CEO and other people his age offering financial advice.

So what's the secret to his success? Fleisher said it's simple: Find companies that are growing and profitable and have the patience to stay invested for a good while.

It also helps if you're a bit of a whiz kid, too.

"I really do like investing. I don't really see it as a burden," he said. "When I am doing investments, it's not as if I need to take a break at any point at all."

Economy

Canadian dollar slips to lowest point since 2009

The Canadian dollar hit fresh multi-year lows below the 80-cent US level Thursday against an American currency that strengthened on growing conviction the U.S. Federal Reserve will move to hike rates sooner rather than later.

The loonie shed 0.57 of a cent to 79.3 cents US, its lowest level since late March 2009.

The slide added to a three-quarters of a cent plunge on Wednesday

after the Fed said at the end of its scheduled policy meeting that it would be patient in beginning to hike rates from near zero, where they have been since the 2008 financial collapse.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The loonie hit a six-year low. ISTOCK

Market Minute

DOLLAR
79.3¢
(-0.57¢)

Natural gas: \$2.719 (-12.3¢)
Dow Jones: 17,416.85 (+225.48)

↑ **TSX**
14,635.96 (+33.08)

↑ **OIL**
\$44.53 US (+0.08¢)

↓ **GOLD**
\$1,255.90 US (-\$31.30)

Keystone XL

U.S. Senate readies for critical vote on Canadian pipeline

The Republican-controlled U.S. Senate moved Thursday toward passage of a bipartisan bill approving the Keystone XL oil pipeline, defying a presidential veto threat on the privately funded Canadian project and setting up the first of many expected battles with the White House over energy and the environment.

The Senate planned to vote on the bill later Thursday, advancing a top priority of the newly empowered Republicans. It is one of the first bills to draw a veto threat from President Barack Obama. The vote caps weeks often messy debate.

The bill has 60 Republican and Democratic sponsors — enough to pass in the 100-member chamber, but not the two-thirds needed to override a presidential veto.

It authorizes construction of the 1,900-kilometre pipeline, which would carry oil primarily from Canada's oil sands to refineries on the Gulf of Mexico. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Superbowl. CRTC moves to ban subbing of U.S. ads

Canada's broadcast regulator is banning the substitution of Canadian advertisements for American ads during the Super Bowl.

The decision won't take effect in time for this Sunday's game, but it could be in place for next year if Bell Media — the rights holder for the 2016 event — waives its rights to switch ads.

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission says the new rule will be officially in place for the 2017 Super Bowl.

TV networks will still be allowed to simultaneously substitute advertising on programming broadcast on local TV stations, but not specialty channels.

CRTC chairman Jean-Pierre Blais also warns that penalties could be imposed on broadcasters if the ad switching disrupts programming enough for viewers to complain.

In a speech to a London, Ont., business gathering today, Blais also announced that broadcasters will lose the ability to switch ads, along with mandatory carriage privileges on cable and satellite services, if they shut down transmitters that allow Canadians access to free, over-the-air TV signals.

Superbowl ads

The substitution of Canadian content over the time-honoured institution of U.S. Superbowl ads is coming to an end.

- **Not in time for Sunday.** While the decision comes too close to take effect this weekend, it may become a reality in 2016 if Bell Media — the rights holder for the game — waives its right to switch ads.
- **2017.** Although 2016 Superbowl advertisements are up in the air, the CRTC says the ruling takes full effect in 2017.

Blais also announced today the CRTC is ordering Bell Mobility and Videotron to stop giving their own mobile television services an unfair advantage over other Internet services.

The two companies have exempted their own mobile television services from their standard monthly data charges while content from other websites or apps is counted against a customer's data cap.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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THE KOHLER REPORT

By Rebecca Kohler

How young is too young to learn about sexual consent in Canadian schools?

That's the big debate in Ontario this week, after Premier Kathleen Wynne announced kids as young as six will soon be learning about how body language and facial expressions relate to consent as part of an overhaul to the province's decades-old sex-ed curriculum.

It's unclear if the lessons will be taught verbally or through finger painting, but what's for sure is that it will be taught — and hurry for that. I consent to consent ed!

Unlike some more progressive provinces whose sex-ed programs have been updated in the past decade, Ontario's was developed in 1998 when cellphones were just shoeboxed devices used by rich people on TV. The last time the province tried to update the program, it got shelved because of objections from religious groups. The debate was recently reignited when two eighth-graders, Lia Valente and Tessa Hill, started a Change.org petition to get the notion of consent discussed in health class.

That's not to say that hot topics of late like Jian Ghomeshi, Bill Cosby and Rehtaeh Parsons haven't played a part in creating an en-

vironment that made this kind of thing seem necessary. If Ghomeshi had been taught about consent from the age of six, maybe he wouldn't currently be awaiting trial; or maybe he's just a sociopath, but it would have been worth a try, wouldn't it?

Not everyone thinks so. Every time the topic of sex education in Ontario schools comes up, there's a backlash featuring a lot of tired, outdated, head-in-the-sand objections from conservatives.

In fact, in 2010, then-Premier Dalton McGuinty tried to push a similar program forward but kowtowed to pressure from people such as Charles McVety, head of Canada Christian College, who started a petition against the proposed curriculum and got over 100,000 signatures — McGuinty withdrew the lesson plans. I'm hoping Wynne has bigger ovaries than McGuinty. McVety is all hot and bothered (angry, not aroused) this time around, too.

"We abhor the premier announcing that Ontario's teachers will be forced to teach little children how to give permission ... to engage in sex." I'm appalled by the fact that a "good" Christian actually thinks teachers will be telling six-year-olds to engage in sex. That is not the plan. As Wynne put it, "Starting right in the ... junior grades, kids will be learning listening skills and helping each

other to pay attention to facial expressions and ... whether somebody is positive or negative or happy or sad."

These are skills one could teach in a number of ways; I don't think any Grade 1 teachers will be digging out the dildos or inflating any sexy blow-up dolls. Consent is applicable in many life situations. I once had a co-worker who enjoyed foisting her "famous rice pilaf" on me — wow, do I ever wish she'd had a lesson in reading facial expressions and for that matter, gag reflexes.

Parents who don't want their kids exposed to the idea of sex at school forget that their kids have another teacher today: The Internet.

Valente and Hill are living in the present, among all the other students from coast-to-coast who can turn on their laptop to watch a gang-bang, under the veil of porn, for sexual entertainment purposes. This stuff makes Penthouse Magazine look like it should be included on the same bookshelves as Goodnight Moon.

Joe Warmington at the Toronto Sun wasn't keen on the fact that Premier Wynne had taken advice from middle-school students.

"A lecture about sex ed from 13-year-olds in a country where legal consent is 16?"

Yes, Joe! That's the point. The fact that 13-year-olds who are not even legally able to consent already know that consent, or lack of it, is an issue today is indicative of the fact that

there's a really big problem. Like, come on.

McVety and Warmington aren't alone in their disdain for this development.

Reading blogs and comments on news articles and social media, one will see a lot of sentiments like, "That's too young to start broaching the topic of sex," "Schools should only teach abstinence," "Leave it to the parents to teach kids about sex."

Well, those ideas are all fine and dandy if you live where the Care Bears live, but we live on Earth among humans who can at times be ignorant and dangerous.

And can we take it, from recent events, that parents are teaching their kids about consent? To a parent who wants to do it themselves, I ask this: While you might be teaching your daughter about consent, what if your neighbour is not teaching his son the same principles?

Correction

In a Voices column published on Jan. 29, Metro mis-identified the authors of a study on terrorism. The authors were from the universities of Ottawa and Toronto, and the co-authors were from the universities of B.C. and Waterloo. Metro regrets the error.

Happy face/Sad face

From endangered delicacies to adopt-a-cockroach programs, Metro weighs in on the news that made headlines this week:



SALAMANDER SAGA

Police in Shenzhen, China, are in the hot seat for allegedly chowing down on — of all things — endangered salamander at a lavish banquet. Journalists who claim to have caught the feast on camera say they were subsequently beaten up. Fourteen officers have been suspended pending an investigation.



HE LOVES YOU NOT

The San Francisco Zoo is promoting two unique critters as part of its adopt-an-animal program ahead of Valentine's Day. For \$25 or \$50, people can adopt a hissing cockroach or scorpion, respectively, and have the certificate sent to the person who inspired the adoption ... we're guessing an ex.



DOUBLE DOWN DOG

KFC continues to out-gross itself with the creation of the Double Down Dog: A hot dog wrapped in a fried chicken "bun" and drizzled with, dunno, mustard? Cheese sauce? The "delicacy" was made available only in the Philippines, but if it's popular, who knows — it may show up on menus in Canada. Are you brave enough to try it?



LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT

Kathy Beitz, a Guelph, Ont. woman who is legally blind, was able to see her newborn son minutes after his birth, thanks to an amazing eye-wear device produced by Canadian company eSight. Watch the heart-warming video on YouTube.



PHOTOSHOP FAIL

We're assuming someone at Australian magazine Woman's Day is not a Kate Middleton fan. How else do you explain this horribly photoshopped picture of the inarguably beautiful Duchess of Cambridge? Check out the original photo in the smaller circle.



January is shaking its bad rap

Analysis. The month formerly known as the place bad movies go to die has offered some surprisingly good fare in recent memory

Traditional wisdom has it that January is a dumping ground for bad movies.

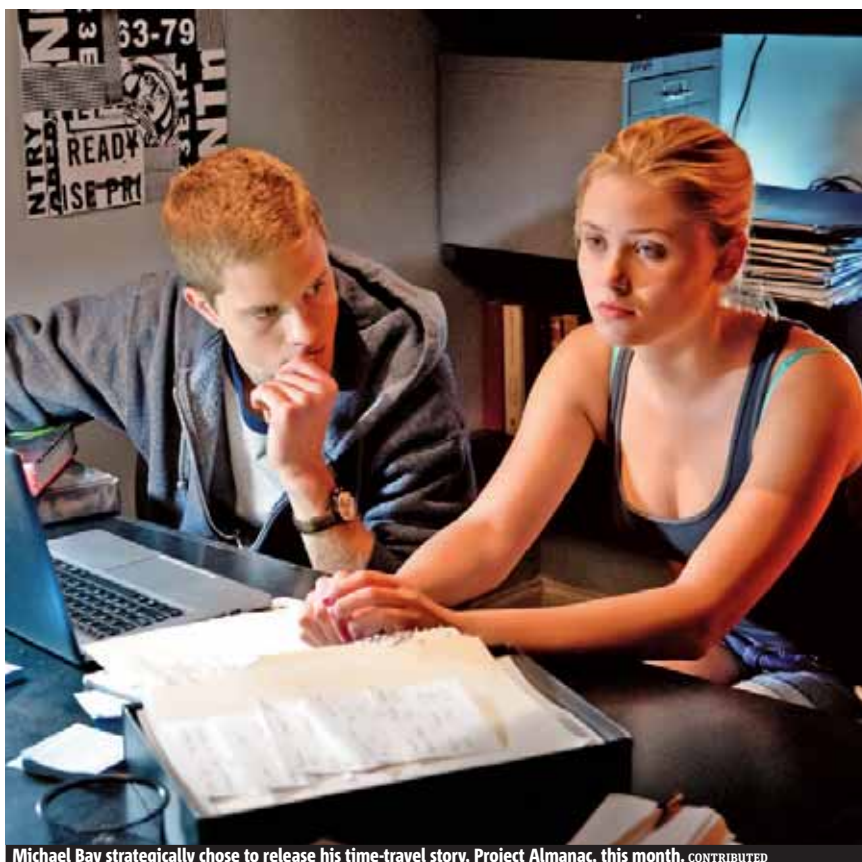
"Everyone is broke after shelling out for Christmas presents," the studios say. "The weather is crappy and anyone leaving the house is going to the gym instead of the movies," complain the suits.

That's why clunkers like *One for the Money*, a Katherine Heigl crime drama with a two per cent Rotten Tomatoes rating and *Season of the Witch* — which saw Nicolas Cage go all medieval on the forces of evil and strain his credibility as an actor — made the lives of critics and audiences miserable on long, cold winter nights in bygone Januarys.

Why waste good movies when no one was likely to go?

Years ago studios threw the odd quality film into the January mix — *Traffic*, *Good Will Hunting*, *Before Sunrise*, *Dr. Strangelove* and *Silence of the Lambs* — but every good movie like *Matinee* (92 per cent on RT) was balanced out with a stinker like *Body of Evidence* and its paltry six per cent rating.

There is still that yin and yang as last week's releases of *The Boy Next Door* and *Mortdecai* (two movies that will decorate Worst Of the Year lists) proves,



Michael Bay strategically chose to release his time-travel story, *Project Almanac*, this month. CONTRIBUTED

In Focus

RICHARD CROUSE



but the tide seems to be changing.

Perhaps that's why *Project Almanac*, a time-travel drama from producer Michael Bay, moved from a prime July release date to the barren January slate.

Surely Bay, as savvy a player as Hollywood has, wouldn't allow his movie

to be tossed out with the trash.

The reason given for the schedule move was that Bay himself wanted to sprinkle some of his *Transformers'* fairy dust to pump up the film's appeal to young audiences.

But it's also apparent that a micro-budget movie like *Project Almanac*, even with Bay's name attached, could get lost in a summer filled with large-scale offerings like *Dawn of the Planet of the Apes*, so why

Richard's ratings

Black or White

.....

Project Almanac

.....

Wild Card

.....

A Most Violent Year

.....

not release in a less crowded, but increasingly profitable field?

What used to be a time to fill screens with borderline cheesefests has become a viable month to release a movie.

Last year big crowds braved the polar vortex to help the Kevin Hart comedy *Ride Along* set a January opening record.

This year the Oscar-nominated *Selma* and *Still Alice* have opened wide in a month usually reserved for Golden Raspberry winners.

Perhaps the biggest story of 2015 so far is the success of Clint Eastwood's *Chris Kyle* biopic, *American Sniper*, which has raked in upwards of \$170 million in just two weeks.

The success of that film is as strong an indicator as Hollywood needs that January is no longer a no-go zone.

2 SCENE



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Costner film poses tough questions about race

Interview. Actor used his own money to fund a simple story that made him feel 'more empowered'

LIZ BROWN
liz.brown@metronews.ca

Kevin Costner made the racially-charged drama *Black or White* happen.

In his latest film, he plays Elliot, a recently widowed alcoholic lawyer battling for the custody of his biracial granddaughter, Eloise.

His rival is Rowena (Octavia Spencer), Eloise's paternal grandmother, who thinks she should move from the richest part of Los Angeles to the "black" neighbourhood with her.

But the film doesn't pick sides. "It really impressed me how even-handed the film was," says Costner.

Indeed, every one of Eloise's potential guardians is battling a personal demon



Octavia Spencer and Kevin Costner star in *Black or White*, which opens this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

of some kind.

"I just thought it was an honest story from the very first page. I felt like I was reading something really authentic," he adds.

Costner was so drawn to

the script, written by his old The Upside of Anger filmmaker, Mike Binder, that he wound up financing it to ensure it hit the big screen. When no one else came round, he put up his own

money — some \$9 million of it. "I was hoping other people would rush to the movie and see the same potential and value in it that I did, but unfortunately that didn't happen," he says.

Quoted

"To say you're colour-blind is disingenuous. You do see differences. The key is to understand those differences."

Kevin Costner

Not that his character is some white saviour, or even that good. Elliot's battles with Rowena betray his own prejudices.

He thinks Eloise is already "living in one of the safest neighbourhoods in L.A.," he boasts, and shouldn't move to Rowena's part of the city.

"Elliot was comfortable in that environment, visiting and socializing with Eloise's family, but he instinctually still thought his granddaughter would be safer with him," says Costner.

Still, the movie subtly condemns his stance.

"Racism doesn't have to be overt. This is where the veil of racism is lifted, when

he thinks she wouldn't be safe in that 'other' neighbourhood.

"But Elliot travels far in this movie and comes to understand himself better," he adds.

It was a bit of a parallel for Costner who adds that examining those covert attitudes in a narrative made him feel "more empowered."

"People say they're colour-blind when they want to explain they are without prejudice. But to say you're colour-blind is disingenuous. You do see differences. The key is to understand those differences."

The tale may not have been epic enough for big Hollywood studios to take notice, but Costner hopes that audiences will at least be surprised by the film and the things it says.

"It's a simple story about life," he says.

"It doesn't solve anything. It's about the well-being of a child and what's best for the child and race shouldn't be rolled into those sorts of things."

Now in theatres

Ratings and synopses courtesy of Rotten Tomatoes. For more movie reviews, trailers and news go to RottenTomatoes.com.

Ratings: **Certified Fresh:** 🍅 **Fresh:** 🍅 **Rotten:** 🍋 **Audience response:** 🍷 **Audience anticipation for the film:** +

Drama



Black or White

Director. Mike Binder

Stars. Kevin Costner, Octavia Spencer

Black or White is the story of a grandfather (Kevin Costner) who is suddenly left to care for his beloved granddaughter. When her paternal grandmother (Octavia Spencer) seeks custody with the help of her brother (Anthony Mackie), the girl is torn between two families who love her deeply. With the best intentions at heart, both families fight for what they feel is right and are forced to confront their true feelings about race, forgiveness, and understanding.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score

Critics: 🍅 44% Audience: + 89%

Drama/Action



A Most Violent Year

Director. J.C. Chandor

Stars. Oscar Isaac, Jessica Chastain

Set during the winter of 1981 — statistically one of the most crime-ridden of New York City's history — *A Most Violent Year* is a drama following the lives of an immigrant and his family as they attempt to capitalize on the American Dream, while the rampant violence, decay, and corruption of the day drag them in and threaten to destroy all they have built.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score

Critics: 🍅 90% Audience: 🍷 76%

Mystery/Sci-Fi



Project Almanac

Director. Dean Israelite

Stars. Sophia Black-D'Elia, Jonny Weston

A brilliant high school student and his friends uncover blueprints for a mysterious device with limitless potential, inadvertently putting lives in danger.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score

Critics: No reviews yet Audience: 🍷 78%

Action



Mortdecai

Director. David Koepp

Stars. Johnny Depp, Gwyneth Paltrow

Juggling some angry Russians, the British Mi5, his impossibly leggy wife and an international terrorist, debonair art dealer and part-time rogue Charlie Mortdecai (Johnny Depp) must traverse the globe armed only with his good looks and special charm in a race to recover a stolen painting rumoured to contain the code to a lost bank account filled with Nazi gold.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score

Critics: 🍅 12% Audience: 🍷 41%

Animation



Strange Magic

Director. Gary Rydstrom

Strange Magic is a madcap fairy-tale musical inspired by *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Popular songs from the past six decades help tell the tale of a colorful cast of goblins, elves, fairies and imps, and their hilarious misadventures sparked by the battle over a powerful potion.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score

Critics: 🍅 17% Audience: 🍷 55%

Mystery



The Boy Next Door

Director. Neill Fearnley, Rob Cohen

Stars. Jennifer Lopez, Ryan Guzman

Jennifer Lopez leads the cast in *The Boy Next Door*, a psychological thriller that explores a forbidden attraction that goes much too far. Directed by Rob Cohen (*The Fast and the Furious*) and written by Barbara Curry, the film also stars Ryan Guzman, John Corbett and Kristin Chenoweth.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score

Critics: 🍅 13% Audience: 🍷 50%

Meet the Project Almanac cast

Think you've seen these faces somewhere before? Here, we give you the lowdown on the young actors in producer Michael Bay's new time-travel drama — and tell you where they're all likely to pop up next

MATT PRIGGE

Metro World News in New York City



The actor: Sam Lerner

The role: Quinn, the loudmouth comic-relief pal with some ideas about how to abuse their new time-travelling powers.

Where you've seen him before: On the brilliant, but cancelled, Suburgatory and in the L.A. indie Nobody Walks.

Where you'll see him next: Continuing to pop up on The Goldbergs and in the Fatal Attraction-goes-to-high-school thriller Stripped of Innocence.

The actor: Virginia Gardner

The role: Christina, David's younger sister and the group's go-to camera operator.

Where you've seen her before: Here and there on shows like Glee, The Goldbergs and Hart of Dixie.

Where you'll see her next: The coming-of-age drama Good Kids.



The actor: Jonny Weston

The role: David, the brainiac hero of the story with some unresolved issues about his dad's mysterious death.

Where you've seen him before: Catching waves in Chasing Mavericks and romancing Juliette Lewis in Kelly & Cal.

Where you'll see him next: Joining the YA dystopia in Insurgent and opposite Zac Efron in We Are Your Friends.

The 10 best time-travel movies of all (ahem) time

Project Almanac enters a proud pantheon of movies that tackle the super-fun and super-speculative world of time travel, but how does it stack up against its predecessors? We tallied up the 10 best takes on time travel of all time. And what do you know? The characters in Project Almanac even name-check our No. 1, calling it, "Awesome."

1. Looper (2012)
2. Twelve Monkeys (1995)
3. Time Bandits (1981)
4. Primer (2004)
5. Back to the Future (1985)
6. Terminator 2: Judgment Day (1991)
7. Midnight in Paris (2011)
8. Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure (1989)
9. Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (2004)
10. X-Men: Days of Future Past (2014)

The actor: Allen Evangelista

The role: Adam, David's other comic-relief pal, though less loudmouthed and comic than Quinn.

Where you've seen him before: On television in The Secret Life of the American Teenager and Zoey 101.

Where you'll see him next: He just popped up again on Brooklyn Nine-Nine, which could become a regular thing.



The actor: Sofia Black-D'Elia

The role: Jessie Pierce, the hottest and coolest girl in school. Everybody loves her.

Where you've seen her before: On television in the U.S. version of Skins and here and there on Gossip Girl.

Where you'll see her next: Fighting an outbreak in Viral and going biblical in Ben-Hur.

WINNER
NATIONAL BOARD of REVIEW
BEST FILM OF THE YEAR
BEST ACTOR OSCAR ISAAC • BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS JESSICA CHASTAIN

"A BRILLIANT GANGSTER FILM"
AWARDS CIRCUIT

"PULPY, MEATY, ALTOGETHER TERRIFIC"
The New York Times

★★★★★ DYNAMITE
DAILY NEWS

"OSCAR ISAAC IS AN IMPLOSIVE POWERHOUSE"
Rolling Stone

"JESSICA CHASTAIN IS FEROCIOUS"
THE WRAP

"CAPTURES AND DOESN'T LET GO"
Los Angeles Times

CERTIFIED FRESH
Rotten Tomatoes

**OSCAR ISAAC
JESSICA CHASTAIN
NEW YORK CITY, 1981
A MOST VIOLENT YEAR**

participant media
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14+

Super Bowl star gazing

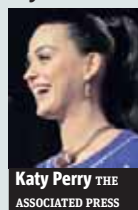
Celebs converge on Phoenix

The desert is great for stargazing, and that will certainly be the case as the Super Bowl takes over Phoenix and its suburbs.

Comedians Joel McHale and Kevin Hart will crack jokes for partygoers, and Jamie Foxx and Drake will hold court at a pair of lounges at a swanky Scottsdale hotel.

Hear Katy Perry roar

Katy Perry says her Super Bowl halftime performance will make you Roar — with animals.



Katy Perry THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The singer told reporters at a press conference Thursday that her performance Sunday will include “a lion and sharks.”

Perry, 30, said she feels blessed to perform on the Super Bowl stage “at such a young age.” She said she enjoyed past Super Bowl performances from Beyoncé and Madonna, and what she adds “is some lightheartedness.”

Lenny Kravitz will join the pop star who said her performance will also include an “old-school” female singer.

When asked if Perry had been checking out football players this week, she imitated Seattle Seahawks running back Marshawn Lynch, saying: “I’m just here so I don’t get fined.”

Music for the masses

Performances by top artists aren’t just for gala or party invitees. Several paid concerts are scheduled for the days before the game.

DirectTV hosts a three-day music festival that culminates with a Friday night show featuring Snoop Dogg and Imagine Dragons. Performers on other days include the Zac Brown Band, Calvin Harris and Jason Derulo.

Twelve blocks of downtown Phoenix are being transformed into the Verizon Super Bowl Central, a free area with NFL-themed attractions and nightly fireworks shows. Pepsi has set up its Hyped for Halftime Stage which will feature performances by The Roots, Walk the Moon and other acts daily.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Splashy ads grab major YouTube views

Super Bowl ads.

Canadians go online to watch the commercials they can’t see on TV

JESSICA SMITH CROSS
Metro in Toronto

Searching the Internet for the American Super Bowl commercials Canadians don’t get on TV on has become a national pastime, but that’s about to change.

Five years of Google search data shows that every year, more Canadians search Google for Super Bowl commercials than Americans and our searches outnumber our giant neighbour to the south the most around game day, when Canadian broadcasters have been subbing out splashy American ads for Canadian ones.

That hunger for American ads is why the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission announced Thursday it will stop Canadian broadcasters from subbing in Canadian ads for American ones during the Super Bowl as of 2017.

“The best commercials are coming from the U.S. where they have more skin in the game, given what they’re paying for advertising,” said Kenneth Wong, Professor of Marketing at Queen’s School of Business.

“In fact, many of the Canadian ads shown at the Super Bowl are just regular ads, nothing special done for the Super Bowl.”

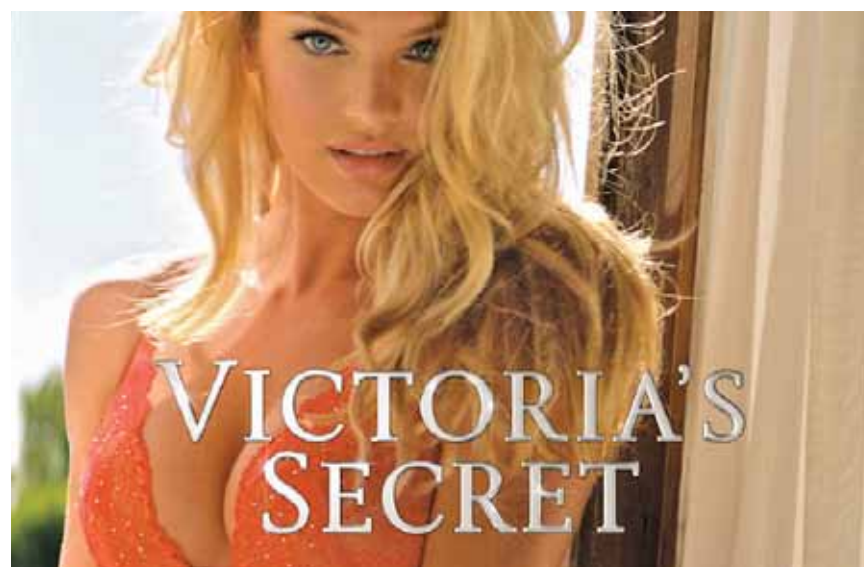
In the meantime, it’s become more important for Super Bowl ads to make the most of the buzz online, he said. More companies are making “teasers,” which are essentially online ads for their Super Bowl ads.

Weekend of music. Pop star Charli XCX playing three Super Bowl gigs

Grammy-nominated singer Charli XCX is one of Super Bowl week’s most sought-after acts, with at least three performances scheduled.

The pop singer is singing for troops Friday night at Luke Air Force base and performing a set at ESPN’s bash later that night. On Saturday, she’ll perform for partygoers at Rolling Stone’s bash.

The ESPN party on Friday



A Victoria's Secret 90-second teaser ad showed supermodels fully dressed as football players, although the actual Super Bowl ad shows the models dressed in Victoria's Secret lingerie. VICTORIA'S SECRET/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Carnival Cruise Lines is trying to boost its image with its first-ever Super Bowl ad after several years of bad publicity from illnesses on cruise ships and the sinking of the Costa Concordia wreck in 2012. CARNIVAL CRUISE LINES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

For example, Victoria’s Secret filmed an online spot of its models playing football that is just as a teaser for its main ad during the game.

“When you’re spending \$4.5 million on a single exposure of a national ad, you want to do everything possible to make sure that ad is seen by people,” Wong said. “So, you

make an ad for an ad.”

More than 70-million total minutes of Super Bowl ads — and teasers for ads — have been watched on YouTube so far, which is nearly triple the amount watched by this time last year, Google reports.

According to Cheri Bradish, research chair in sport marketing, Ted Rogers School of

Management, the immense popularity of online Super Bowl ads goes hand-in-hand with a shift away from watching sports on TV to watching sports on other platforms.

“The paradigm is clearly shifted in how consumers, particularly young consumers, are consuming sports,” she said.



Newcomer Charli XCX ROB LATOUR/INVISION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Invite-only. Rihanna to headline private concert

For many Super Bowl parties, you’ve got to know someone to get inside.

Rihanna headlines one of the weekend’s biggest private concerts, DirecTV’s Super Saturday Night, which has previously featured performances by Jay-Z and Beyoncé, Justin Timberlake, and this year’s halftime performer, Katy Perry.

Rolling Stone, Maxim and Playboy magazines are among the invite-only parties this week.

5 ads worth talking about

In general, ads released online so far are on par in terms of quality, but with less emphasis on high production value than in recent years, said Wong. He believes companies find using celebrities in their ads — such as Kim Kardashian and Pierce Brosnan — a more effective way to create an impact.

- **Kia Sorento.** Pierce Brosnan stars as himself and gets lampooned when offered an acting part: Where he’s expecting action, it’s a more mundane car ad. “It’s a perfect counterpoint to his James Bond image,” said Wong.

- **T-Mobile.** Kim Kardashian, satirizes herself advertising a feature that allows T-Mobile users to save the data allowance they didn’t use in a month by talking, deadpan, about all of the pictures of her they could be using it on.

- **Wix.com.** Wong’s pick for best ad so far. Retired football players use Wix.com to easily build websites to jumpstart their wacky choices of second careers. For example, Brett Farve gets into charcuterie, and builds favreandcarve.com, which exists in real life.

- **Carl’s Jr.** This ad showing model Charlotte McKinney walking apparently naked through a farmers market has faced criticism for using sex to sell burgers.

- **GoDaddy.** GoDaddy pulled its ad featuring a puppy mill using GoDaddy to host its website after it caused an outrage among tweeting animal rights activists.

Carnival to the stars

Some celebrities and athletes will also get to indulge their inner child at Neon Carnival, a star-friendly event that features rides, games and dance music — and a stringent guest list.

ties this week.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Top 5 banned Super Bowl ads

With millions of dollars spent on Super Bowl ads and companies trying to have the edgiest commercials, there are some that are so raunchy they never make it to air.

Many of these ads contain content that may not be suitable for prime time television in the United States, but have found a permanent home online.

Here are the top five Super Bowl ads that were banned from television.

Skechers 2011

(Kim Kardashian)

In 2011, Kim Kardashian did a commercial for Skechers. Yes, Skechers. Somehow nobody will ever remember the shoes, but the ad will live forever.

PETA, 2009

In 2009, animal rights organization PETA created a very sexy ad involving women in lingerie handling vegetables in provocative ways. We got the message, but the commercial was too hot for TV.

Bud Light, 2010

This banned ad by Bud Light featured corporate men who were told they would receive a can of Bud Light for each article of clothing they donated. There were a lot of naked middle-aged men walking around the office that day. All for a can of Bud Light.

Bud Light, 2006

This banned commercial from Bud Light didn't involve nudity, but it did involve someone opening bottles of beer with their rear end. We can't make this stuff up.

Go Daddy, 2007

This Go Daddy ad featured a hot model wearing

cut-off shorts and mimicking a scene from Basic Instinct.

Yes, that scene.

METRO U.S.



Kim Kardashian

Gossip

NED EHRBAR

METRO'S TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES



Justin Bieber ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Bieber opens up, says he was just pretending to be a doofus

A recent visit to Ellen apparently prompted Justin Bieber to take to Facebook to record a dimly lit confessional video detailing his personal insecurities about how he's come off over the past year.

And he's just trying to be Justin, guys.

"It's been a minute since I've been in a public ap-

pearance, and I didn't want to come off arrogant or conceited — basically how I've been acting the past year, year and a half," he says of his interview with Ellen DeGeneres.

"I'm not what I was pretending to be. Why I say I was pretending is, often we pretend to be something we're not, as a cover-up of

what we're truly feeling inside. And there was a lot of feelings going on in there. ... Just being young and growing up in this business is hard. Just growing up in general is hard."

If this is how he reacts to a sit-down with DeGeneres, maybe this whole Comedy Central roast thing isn't such a great idea.

Third Middleton tries to prove his life isn't soft as a marshmallow

When you think of the name Middleton, you think Kate, right? Beyond that, probably Pippa. But don't forget about James. Can being the younger brother to the Duchess of Cambridge — one of the most famous women in the world — be a bit frustrating?

"Yes, it does get frustrating," James Middleton tells iPad magazine The Young Director. "I work incredibly hard — just like every other person in business and work. And aside from the fact of — yes, I am the brother of someone very important — I am, at the end of the day, just James."

So have some sympathy, you guys. And speaking of business and

work, what is it James is up to these days?

Running his startup, Boomf, which allows Instagram users to get their photos printed on marshmallows. Yes, you read that correctly.

"I have only ever employed myself," James says proudly and without a hint of irony.

James Middleton



Black Sabbath Geezer just can't quit being a bad boy

All the names in this story are just so, so perfect: The band? Black Sabbath. The band member? Geezer Butler. The location? Death Valley. Sabbath's 65-year-old Butler was arrested this week for getting into a bar fight in a saloon Death Valley because of course he did.

A police press statement reads. "It was determined that there had been an argument that escalated into a physical confrontation — resulting in an individual being struck, and a broken window. Terence Michael Butler, a 65-year-old man from Beverly Hills, Calif., was arrested for misdemeanor assault, public intoxication



Geezer Butler

and vandalism. Butler was booked into the Inyo County jail and released after detox and citation."

Keep on rocking.

Brad and Angie to get their act together yet again

Apparently the one thing holding Brad Pitt and Angelina back from trying to recapture that Mr. and Mrs. Smith on-screen magic was not actually being married, since now that they've tied the knot they can't seem to stop working together. The pair spent

their honeymoon filming the romantic drama By the Sea, which Jolie also directed, and now Pitt is in talks to star in Jolie's next directorial effort, Africa, according to The Wrap. I guess when she finds an actor she likes, she really sticks with him.



Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt

That's a whole Lautner of girlfriends

The folks behind Twilight star Taylor Lautner keep trying really, really hard to make sure there's some sort of female companionship in his life. While he recently "broke up" with his Tracers co-star Marie Avgeropoulos, Lautner is now apparently "dating" 20-year-old model Raina Lawson. "It's new," a source tells E! News. And, I mean, how could it not be? He also previously "dated" his Abduction co-star Lily Collins and Valentine's Day co-star Taylor Swift. Are we sensing a pattern here? So far as I know, though, Lautner and Lawson haven't been filming anything together, so she bucks the trend.



Taylor Lautner

Ricardo is a Canadian chef, television host and author on a mission: To unite people through the pleasure of food. Discover his delicious and simple recipes every Friday — just in time for the weekend

Cosy meets show-stopping in one dish

Lunch or dinner. Crab Chowder in a Sourdough Bread Bowl makes for an impressive presentation



RICARDO COOKS
Chef Ricardo
Ricardo Magazine

Hearty, filling and warm: Isn't that what everyone is craving this time of year? This show-stopping crab and sourdough recipe makes a perfect meal soup for a cold winter's day.

1. In saucepan over medium heat, soften leek and carrot in

Ingredients

- 1 leek, white part only, finely chopped
- 1 carrot, peeled and diced
- 1/4 cup (57 g) butter
- Salt and pepper
- 1/4 cup (35 g) flour
- 2 cups (500 ml) chicken broth
- 2 cups (500 ml) milk
- 2 cups (330 g) potatoes, peeled and diced
- 2 sprigs fresh thyme
- 3/4 lb (375 g) fresh crab meat OR 3 cans (120 g/4 oz each) crab meat, drained
- 1 cup (135 g) corn kernels
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) 35% cream
- 4 slices bacon, cut crosswise into small pieces
- 4 small round loaves sourdough



This recipe serves four. COURTESY RICARDOCUISINE.COM

butter. Season with salt and pepper. Dust with flour and stir to combine. Add broth and bring to boil while whisking. Add milk, potatoes and thyme.

2. Slowly bring back to boil and simmer gently, frequently scraping bottom of pan, until veggies tender, about 15 min-

utes. Add crab, corn and cream. Simmer 5 minutes. Remove thyme and adjust seasoning.

3. Meanwhile, in skillet over medium heat, cook bacon until crisp. Drain on paper towels.

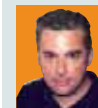
4. On clean surface, slice top off each bread loaf. Using fin-

gers, hollow out loaves, leaving 1 inch (2.5 cm) of crumb all around. Ladle hot soup into bread bowls. Sprinkle with bacon bits.

FOLLOW RICARDO ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND ON RICARDOCUISINE.COM OR SUBSCRIBE TO HIS MAGAZINE'S ENGLISH EDITION, WHICH LAUNCHED IN 2014.

Liquid Assets

Chowder's liquid partner



LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

Pairing wine with liquid-centric meals can be tricky business — even when it comes to a heartier, protein-based staple like chowder.

Though populated with chunks of seafood, this classic winter warmer still has fluidity that can water down a wine.

As with any food and wine pairing, use the ingredient that has the most influence in the dish as your guide.

In Chef Ricardo's Crab Chowder recipe, featured this week, it's a combination of the shellfish and the creaminess of the broth.

Both components work best with a white wine.

The apple fruit found in a glass of German Riesling will make a great partner, as would a French or New World Chardonnay, especially one that highlights the grape's rich mouth-feel rather than oak aging.

Louis Latour's 2012 Bourgogne Chardonnay (\$19.95 - \$26.79) is aged in stainless steel, putting the focus on its bright flavour profile which will work wonders with the recipe's creamy texture and the sweetness of the crab meat. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**



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Seattle Super Seven Dip. Snack for the Seahawks

In a medium bowl, use an electric mixer to beat the cream cheese until light and fluffy. Add the milk, 1 tablespoon at a time, beating until smooth and fluffy. Stir in the sour cream, then set aside.

In a medium skillet over medium, heat 1 tablespoon of the olive oil. Add the onion and cook, stirring frequently, until well browned and caramelized, about 15 to 20 minutes. If the onion begins to stick, add a tablespoon of water and continue to cook. Set aside.

In a medium bowl, combine the cabbage and chives. In another bowl, whisk together the jam, vinegar, a pinch each of salt and pepper, the remaining 2 tablespoons olive oil, and a splash of hot sauce.

To assemble the dip, spread the crab over the bottom of a large, shallow baking dish. Drizzle with the teriyaki sauce. Spread the whipped cream cheese over the crab, spreading evenly to the edge of the bowl. Spread the caramelized onions evenly over the cream cheese, then top with the chopped smoked mussels. If making ahead, wrap and refrigerate for

Ingredients

- 8 ounces cream cheese, room temperature
- 3 tablespoons milk
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 large yellow onion, thinly sliced
- 2 cups finely grated red cabbage
- 3 tablespoons finely chopped fresh chives
- 3 tablespoons blackberry jam
- 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- Kosher salt and ground black pepper
- Splash of hot sauce
- 16 ounces well-drained crab meat, preferably Dungeness
- 1/2 cup teriyaki sauce
- 6 ounces smoked mussels, lightly chopped

up to 24 hours. When ready to serve, heat the oven to 350 F. Bake for 20 minutes, or until warmed through. Arrange cabbage mixture over the top and drizzle with blackberry vinaigrette. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

SUPER BOWL XLIX



The Seattle Super Seven Dip, left, is made with teriyaki-seasoned Dungeness crabmeat, cream cheese, caramelized onions, smoked mussels, purple cabbage slaw and blackberry vinaigrette. It takes about 30 minutes to make. The New England dip is made with barbecued pulled pork, sautéed apples and butter. It takes about 1-1/2 hours. Both dips serve 16 people. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

New England Super Seven Dip. Pig out for the Patriots

In a medium saucepan over medium heat, combine the pork tenderloin with the broth. Bring to a simmer, then cover and cook until very tender, about 45 minutes. Discard the broth. Using 2 forks, shred the meat, then transfer to a medium bowl. Add the barbecue sauce and toss until coated.

While the pork cooks, prepare the other ingredients. In a medium bowl, use an electric mixer to beat the cream cheese until light and fluffy. Add the milk, 1 tablespoon at a time, beating until smooth and fluffy. Stir in the sour cream, then set aside.

In a medium skillet over medium-high heat, melt the butter. Add the apples and cook until just tender. In a small bowl, stir together the corn kernels, scallions and hot sauce.

To assemble the dip, spread the corn mixture over the bottom of a large, shallow baking dish. Top with the pork, then with the apples. Spread the whipped cream cheese evenly over the apples, spreading to the edge.

Spoon the baked beans

Ingredients

- 1 pound pork tenderloin, cut into 2-inch pieces
- 2 cups low-sodium chicken broth
- 3/4 cup barbecue sauce
- 8 ounces cream cheese, room temperature
- 3 tablespoons milk
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 medium apples, peeled, cored and diced
- 1 cup thawed corn kernels, well drained
- 3 thinly sliced scallions
- Splash of hot sauce
- 15-ounce can baked beans, partially drained
- 1 1/2 cups shredded extra-sharp cheddar cheese
- 2/3 cup crumbled crisp-cooked bacon

over the cream cheese, then top with the cheddar and bacon. If making ahead, wrap and refrigerate for up to 24 hours. When ready to serve, heat the oven to 350 F. Bake for 20 minutes, or until warmed through.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Effective in different ways

Contrasting coaches.

Belichick, Carroll have risen to the top in their profession with football IQ that 'is way up there'

Put Bill Belichick behind a microphone and he's C-SPAN — minus the information.

Pete Carroll is more like a Lifetime movie. Or, as defensive lineman Michael Bennett puts it, "He has that Benjamin

Button effect on everyone."

The Super Bowl coaches approach their obligations to the public and media from opposite ends.

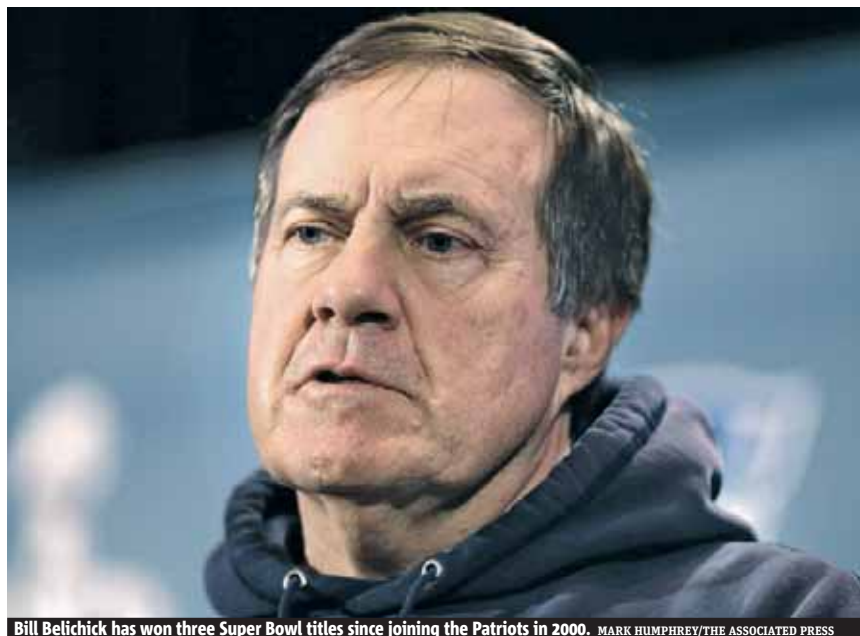


Pete Carroll
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Belichick, coaching for his fourth championship in New England, is dry, offers little to no insight and rarely makes anyone laugh. Carroll, looking for his second straight title, is a high-fiving, fist-bumping extrovert who started one of his news conferences this week with a welcoming, "What's up?!"

Different styles have produced similar results, though.

Belichick is making his



Bill Belichick has won three Super Bowl titles since joining the Patriots in 2000. MARK HUMPHREY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

sixth Super Bowl appearance as a head coach and his Patriots are as close as there is to a dynasty in the current NFL. Carroll's team is being mentioned as a possible dynasty, as well, and that notion will only gain steam if the Seahawks win Sunday and become the first back-to-back champions since New England in 2003-04.

Dissimilar as they are, they

have both built their teams on a foundation of unflinching candour inside their locker and meeting rooms — a quality Carroll brings to some of his public speaking, but one that Belichick eschews.

"What you see on TV is what you get, pretty much, from the two," said Patriots cornerback Brandon Browner, who previously played for

Carroll in Seattle. "They have similarities too, though. Their football IQ is way up there. They are so different, but at the same time, they're the same. That's why they both have succeeded at this level."

Patriots owner Robert Kraft, who hired Carroll back in 1997, then Belichick in 2000, called his former coach, "pretty special to be around. A

Regular-season statistics



SEAHAWKS		PATRIOTS
12-4	Record	12-4
375.8 (9th)	Total offence	365.5 (11th)
267.1 (1st)	Total defence	344.1 (13th)
24.6 (10th)	Points	29.2 (4th)
15.9 (1st)	Points against	19.6 (8th)

* Rankings are based on per-game averages from NFL.com

lot of fun."

He feels he set Carroll back by not giving him the full control he wanted, and the owner adjusted his style when he made the next hire.

Everyone benefited: Belichick and the Patriots — and Carroll and Seattle.

There's no big mystery to all this coaching success, Belichick insists.

"It's about players making the plays that your team needs to win," he said. "I think as a coach, you want to make sure you don't screw that up."

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SUPER BOWL XLIX

Sizing up the competition

The extremes between the players in Sunday's Super Bowl THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weight

Heaviest

335 lbs.

New England offensive lineman
Marcus Cannon

Lightest

185 lbs.

Seattle defensive back Marcus Burley

Height



OTTO GREULE JR./GETTY IMAGES

Tallest

6'8"

New England offensive linemen Sebastian Vollmer — pictured above towering over his teammates — and Nate Solder

Shortest

5'10"

Twelve players clock in at this height (six on each team)

Paycheque

Highest-paid offence

\$14.1M

The average annual salary of Patriots quarterback Tom Brady

Highest-paid defence

\$14M

The average annual salary of Seahawks cornerback Richard Sherman

Lowest paid

\$420K

The average annual salary of undrafted rookies on both teams



Willson, Ryan represent true north

Canadian content.

Punter says his second Super Bowl "is really a dream come true"

Canada will have a pair of players to root for in the Super Bowl for the second straight season: Seahawks tight end Luke Willson and punter Jon Ryan.

Willson, who grew up outside Windsor, Ont., made his way to the NFL after play-

ing at Rice University, where he learned a quick lesson in how big football is in the United States.

"It was pretty intense, especially coming from Canada," Willson said. "It was a very, very different atmosphere. Football is almost like a religion down there."

Ryan, of Regina, Sask., never got to experience football in America until he ended up in the NFL — with Green Bay in 2006 — by way of the CFL and the University of Regina.

Quoted

"It was kind of cool ... to have that many people care about the game of football."

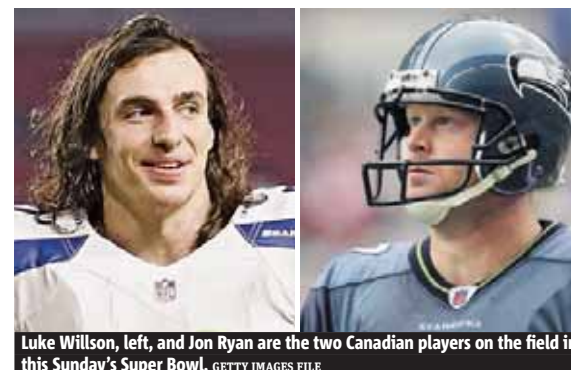
Luke Willson, who grew up in Windsor, Ont., about the moment he realized the game is "almost a religion" in the U.S., when he played for Rice University.

"Growing up in Canada, I never thought I'd have the opportunity to play in the NFL," said Ryan, who threw a touchdown pass on a trick

play in Seattle's comeback win over the Packers in the NFC Championship. "Now to have been playing here for nine years, playing in my second Super Bowl is really a dream come true."

The Seahawks have one other foreign-born player on its roster: Defensive lineman Jesse Williams, who was born in Brisbane, Australia. He spent the season on injured reserve after injuring his knee during fall camp.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Luke Willson, left, and Jon Ryan are the two Canadian players on the field in this Sunday's Super Bowl. GETTY IMAGES FILE



Woods opens '15 with a thud

Tiger Woods plays a shot on the 18th fairway during the first round of the Phoenix Open on Thursday. Woods struggled mightily with his short game and it didn't help that he only hit three greens in regulation on the front nine. He made three bogeys and a double bogey and made the turn in 4-over 39. In his 2015 debut, Woods already was 10 shots behind early leader Keegan Bradley, who had a 6-under 65. / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL. Coyotes top Leafs

For the balance of their losing streak, the Toronto Maple Leafs were done in by the goals they didn't score. That streak reached eight because of goals Jonathan Bernier should not have given up.

Oliver Ekman-Larsson scored from the other side of the centre red-line and Martin Hanzal from the goal-line as the Leafs lost to the Arizona Coyotes 3-1 Thursday night at Air Canada Centre. Toronto fell to 0-7-1 in its past eight games.

Bernier stopped 42 of the 45 shots he faced on a night the offensively-challenged Coyotes

On Thursday

3

Coyotes

1

Maple Leafs

(17-25-6) carried the play.

Despite keeping the Leafs (22-24-4) in the game for the first two periods, Bernier got some Bronx cheers for stopping a harmless clear early in the third. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



Leafs forward David Clarkson, left, takes a hit from the Coyotes' Keith Yandle on Thursday night in Toronto. CLAUS ANDERSEN/GETTY IMAGES

Meier focused on hard work not top prospects talk

QMJHL. Herd import staying even-keeled after strong showing amongst CHL's best



KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE
kristen.lipscombe@metronews.ca

My, oh, Meier.

From being ranked 12th among North American skaters in the 2015 NHL Draft Central Scouting Service mid-term rankings, to tallying three points in the 2015 CHL Top Prospects game last week, Halifax Mooseheads forward Timo Meier has been on fire.

But the 18-year-old right-winger from Herisau, Switzerland, is taking it all in stride.

"It's my draft year, but I try not to focus on that stuff," the six-foot, 209-pound second-year import said Thursday after practice at Scotiabank Centre, adding he plans to "just keep working hard."

"I want to focus on what I can control," Meier said.

Meier has certainly been in control on the ice, contributing a goal and two assists to help Team Orr to a 6-0 shut-out over Team Cherry in last Thursday's game, which featured the CHL's top 40 NHL draft prospects. He played on a high-profile line with Connor McDavid of the Erie Otters and Travis Konecny of the Ottawa 67's.

"It was really fun playing with guys like that," he said.



Import forward Timo Meier, left, is currently second in Halifax Mooseheads scoring. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Weekend ahead

The Halifax Mooseheads host the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles on Friday night and the Baie-Comeau Drakkar on Saturday night.

"They're all really fast, so you've just got to be faster. You've got to be at the top of your game to play at that level."

That's exactly where Meier seems to be, as he's currently 15th in QMJHL

scoring with 28 goals and 32 assists for 60 points in 40 games played so far this season. The only Mooseheads player ahead of him is linemate Nikolaj Ehlers, who is 10th in Q-league scoring with 23 goals and 39 assists for 62 points in 30 games.

"He's always been big and strong, but he's become a more complete player," the 18-year-old fellow import from Aalborg, Denmark, said of Meier Thursday after practice. "He's fun to play with."

Ehlers said some of the guys, including former Herd members Matt Murphy and

Zachary Fucale, gathered to watch Meier's top prospects game performance in a Quebec City hotel room while on the road for three games.

"He really showed that he can play," Ehlers said.

Mooseheads head coach Dominique Ducharme agreed Meier "made the most" of playing alongside top prospects.

"He keeps improving, and that's the most important thing," Ducharme said. "He does every little thing to get better, whether it's on the ice or off the ice; he's pushing himself."

AUS basketball

Huskies, Tigers set for weekend clash

Local basketball rivals Dalhousie Tigers and Saint Mary's Huskies tip off this weekend in Atlantic University Sport basketball action.

The women hit the court at 2 p.m., while the men play at 4 p.m., at the Homburg Centre on the SMU campus in Halifax, with both games worth four points in the standings.

The last time these teams met, the Dalhousie men topped Saint Mary's 72-54, while the Huskies won on the women's side, edging the Tigers 51-49 in overtime Nov. 21 at the Dalplex.

In men's standings, Dalhousie is in third with a 7-5 record, while defending AUS champion Saint Mary's is in fourth with a 6-6 record, while the female Huskies lead with an 11-1 record and the Tigers are in second with an 8-4 record. **METRO**

NBL Canada

Rainmen looking to stop Miracles

The Halifax Rainmen hope to make it two straight when they hit the road this weekend to take on the Moncton Miracles.

The Rainmen edged the Saint John Mill Rats 119-115 last Sunday at the Scotiabank

Centre, and are second in Atlantic Division standings with an 11-12 record going into Sunday's game.

Fans can follow their favourite NBL Canada team to New Brunswick.

Tickets for the fan bus are \$35 each and include entry to the game at the Moncton Coliseum. Go to www.rainmenbasketball.ca for more information. Tip-off is at 2 p.m. **METRO**

AUS hockey

Huskies, Tigers hit ice for busy weekend

Both the Dalhousie Tigers and Saint Mary's Huskies hit the ice twice this weekend in

AUS men's hockey action.

The Huskies host the UPEI Panthers on Friday night and the St. Thomas Tommies on Saturday night, while the Dalhousie Tigers are on the road, taking on the Moncton Aigles Bleus on Friday and the UNB Varsity Reds on Saturday. The puck drops at 7 p.m. for all four games.

On the women's side, the Huskies are also on the road for two games, travelling to Fredericton to take on the St. Thomas Tommies at 7 p.m. on Friday, and then to Sackville, N.B., to face off against the Mount Allison Mounties at 5 p.m. on Saturday.

The Dal Tigers welcome the Panthers to the Halifax Civic Centre at 7:30 p.m. on Friday. **METRO**



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Wiggins heating up on frozen NBA tundra

Basketball. Canadian phenom giving T-Wolves fans reason to hope in dismal season

In the throes of a sometimes-contentious negotiation on a contract extension with the Timberwolves, Ricky Rubio sat down at a table and started to recount the reasons he wanted to stay in Minnesota.

His first three seasons were filled with disappointment, injuries and losses, and the Wolves had recently traded the only established star they have had since Kevin Garnett. Kevin Love, who turned so many of Rubio's nifty passes into assists, was gone to Cleveland, leaving the point guard behind with a roster in flux.

But there was something about the crown jewel of the three-player package the Wolves got in return for Love; something about the way 19-year-old Andrew Wiggins carried himself under a spotlight that has blinded so many others; something in the way he moved in practice that told Rubio everything eventually was going to be OK.

"He always looks like he's going in slow motion while everyone around him is moving 100 miles per hour," Rubio said on that October night before the season began. "He's going to be great."

Wiggins isn't there yet, and everything is not OK in Minnesota. But three months into his rookie season, and a month before he turns 20, the No. 1 overall draft pick is starting to give the Timber-



Vaughan, Ont., product Andrew Wiggins and the Minnesota Timberwolves host the Cleveland Cavaliers on Saturday night. The 2014 No. 1 pick was traded by the Cavs before the start of the season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

wolves and their beleaguered fans hope that all these losses, all these growing pains, will eventually be worth it.

Wiggins leads all rookies in minutes, scoring and free throw attempts and has won Western Conference rookie of the month honours in each of the first two months of the season, with a third likely on the way.

"I would say there's been a lot of growing pains, a lot of stuff we're learning to get better at," Wiggins said. "I feel like all the young people, we're getting better every game, every situation we have."

He has scored in double

Two-way player

Wiggins is nightly asked to guard the opponent's best perimeter player, and he's had success against the likes of Russell Westbrook (7 for 22), James Harden (8 for 23) and Eric Bledsoe (7 for 17).

figures in 19 straight games — averaging 19.4 points on 47.4 per cent shooting in 37.6 minutes in that span — and completely separated himself from the rest of the rookie class through the first half of the season.

The Timberwolves are on

track to miss the playoffs for an 11th straight season, the longest active streak in the league. All the injuries have contributed to an 8-37 record, the worst mark in the league. But it has also forced Wiggins' hand to a positive degree.

Wiggins really started to kick things into gear when the Wolves visited the Cavaliers for the first time on Dec. 23. He scored 27 points and played with the aggressiveness his coaches and teammates were demanding of him.

"I did have a little hop in my step" because it was the team that traded him, Wiggins said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Davis hobbled by groin strain

Pelicans coach Monty Williams says all-star forward Anthony Davis has a mild groin strain and could play again as soon as Friday night against the Los Angeles Clippers.

Davis, who was hurt in Wednesday's 93-85 loss to Denver, had an MRI Thursday morning.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Soccer

Villarreal sets up clash with Barca

Villarreal won 1-0 at Getafe to advance to a Copa del Rey semifinal against Barcelona on a 2-0 aggregate score on Thursday.

Gerard Moreno sealed Villarreal's place among the final four teams with a goal in the 78th minute.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Crime. Hernandez trial underway in Massachusetts

With his old team about to play in the Super Bowl, former New England Patriots star Aaron Hernandez went on trial on murder charges Thursday, watching from the defence table as prosecutors showed the jury security-camera footage from his own home to tie him to the crime.

Hernandez's lawyer countered by arguing that police and prosecutors "locked" in on the NFL player as a suspect from the very beginning, ignored evidence and conducted a "sloppy and unprofessional" investigation.

Hernandez, 25, is charged in the 2013 shooting death of Odin Lloyd, a 27-year-old semiprofessional football player who was dating the sister of Hernandez's fiancée. Lloyd's bullet-riddled body was found in an industrial park near Hernandez's North Attleborough, Mass., home, not far from Gillette Stadium. Hernandez — who had a \$40-million contract as a tight end with the Patriots but was cut by the team just hours after his 2013 arrest — could get life in prison if convicted.

In a separate murder case that has yet to come to trial, Hernandez was charged last



Opening statements were made Thursday as former New England Patriot Aaron Hernandez went on trial for murder. GETTY IMAGES FILE

year in Boston with killing two men in 2012 after someone spilled a drink on him at a nightclub.

Prosecutors in this trial have suggested that Lloyd may have been killed because he knew too much about that crime. But the judge has ruled that prosecutors cannot tell the jury about those slayings.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Murray has last word in heated semi



Andy Murray, left, and Tomas Berdych were the only ones on the court for their match, but there were others involved in a war of words.
PAUL CROCK/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Australian Open.

Brit advances to final after beating Berdych in a match that will be remembered for expletives, complaints

Andy Murray's four-set win over Tomas Berdych at the Australian Open on Thursday will be remembered more for the tension between the players than the shot-making on the court.

There were the usual expletives from Murray, but this time his fiancée, Kim Sears, appeared to mouth several from the player's box, too.

Asked at a news conference about Sears using "Anglo-Saxon adjectives," Murray said media hype in the lead-up to the match added to the tension for everybody involved.

Quoted

"This is sport, there's more to life than sport. It was a little unfair and created extra tension."

Andy Murray blamed the media for making a bigger deal of his former coach Dani Vallverdu's move to Tomas Berdych in November

"It's completely normal that, yeah, the whole first set everyone was tight. My physical trainer, physio ... Even Tomas, who very rarely says anything on the court, there was tension there for him, as well," Murray said. "Yeah, in the heat of the moment you can say stuff that you regret. And, yeah, that's it."

There were also complaints from Berdych about the balls — the umpire checked them, no problem.

And then there was an attempt by Berdych at some mild-mannered trash-talking as the players swapped ends after he captured the first set.

Berdych muttered something as the two men crossed, causing an annoyed Murray to complain loudly to the umpire, Pascal Maria. When Maria asked Berdych what he said, he responded, "Good play, Tomas. That's all I said."

That was pretty much the end of the good play from Berdych in the match. The Czech player went on to lose his fourth Grand Slam semifinal — and second in a row at the Australian Open — 6-7 (6), 6-0, 6-3, 7-5.

Murray will be playing in his fourth final at Melbourne Park against either Novak Djokovic or Stan Wawrinka, who play their semifinal on Friday. He's still looking for his first title here.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Women's draw

Serena meets Sharapova for title

It wasn't until Serena Williams forced herself to relax, and not focus too intently on a milestone Grand Slam title, that she rediscovered the art of winning the biggest events in tennis.

Now she's on the verge of a 19th major championship after beating 19-year-old Madison Keys 7-6 (5), 6-2 on Thursday and setting up an Australian Open final against long-time rival Maria Sharapova.

Williams has won all five Australian Open finals she has contested and won her last 15 matches against No. 2-ranked Sharapova, a five-time major winner.

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2BR \$719
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AUGMENTED REALITY

Stuck on 12 Across?
Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.

See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.



Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

Aries

March 21 - April 20

Today, the more certain people try to convince you that certain goals are beyond your reach the more determined you will be to prove them wrong.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

The planets urge you to show the world you have nothing to hide — even if you do! Pretend you don't have a care. Others will be taken in by your act.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

Your main aim today and over the weekend must be to push yourself harder. Believe in your abilities and that you are capable of more and, in time, your belief will make it a fact.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

Mars and Pluto are nicely aligned today and you could not wish for a better influence to get things done. It is, of course, up to you what you choose to do with your time.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Keep your problems in perspective over the next 24 hours. You may wish that life was easier but in the greater scheme of things your "problems" are opportunities for you to grow.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

According to the planets you can do a lot of people a lot of good but only if you join forces with those who share your opinions and beliefs.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

You will soon be moving up in the world, which is good news for you but bad news for your rivals who will be moving down. Don't waste time feeling sorry for them.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You have a simple choice today: stand by your principles and lose out financially or reject your ideals and make money. How much will it cost you to buy your principles back?

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

You keep asking yourself all sorts of questions but the answers are so slow in coming. Don't let it worry you because some answers always take longer to arrive than others.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Certain people may be making life tough for you for no reason but that is no reason to feel sorry for yourself. Rise to the challenge and master it.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

You may feel unprepared for the challenges that are coming your way but when it's time to act you will do so with courage and confidence.

Pisces

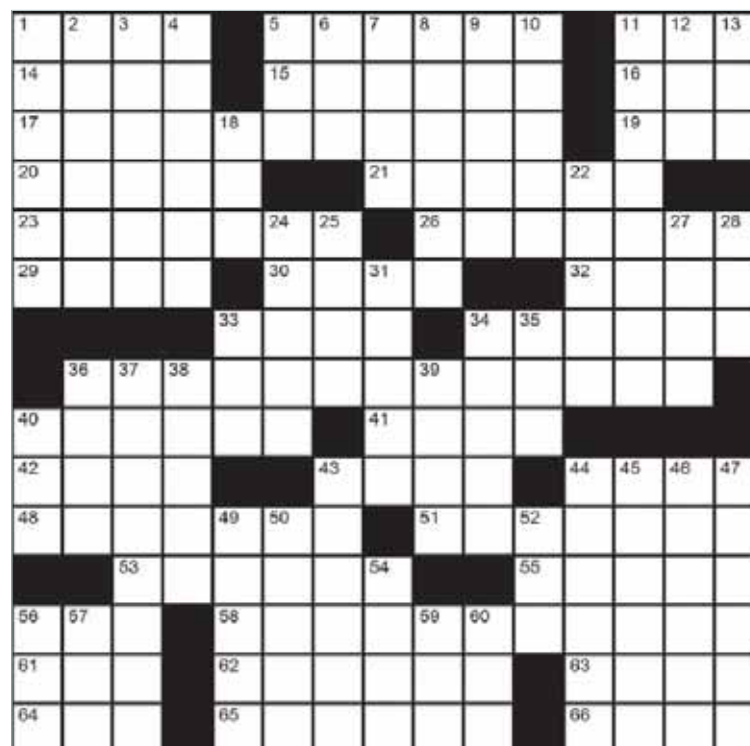
Feb. 20 - March 20

You're lucky and if you don't believe it now you will this weekend. What you would attempt to do if you knew that success was guaranteed? Do it!

Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan

Across

1. Methods
5. Coffee menu items
11. Vancouver sch.
14. Stick ___ in the water
15. Huge, in Hull
16. Philosopher, ___-tzu
17. Winnipeg-born actor who is the voice of the computer HAL in #36-Across: 2 wds. (More at #58-Across!)
19. Samovar
20. Yawnsville
21. Bill Haley & His Comets hit word
23. Chateau ___ (Historic building of 1705 that's a museum attraction in Old Montreal)
26. Despots
29. Slopes slider
30. Prunes
32. Former currency in Italy
33. Simple Minds singer Jim
34. Flipped up, as trousers
36. "2001: ___" (1968)
40. Expects
41. House critters
42. Ruse
43. Groovy
44. Incline
48. Swiftly, in music
51. Piano performance
53. Articulate
55. Ancient market-



- place
56. Compete
58. As per #17-Across, what HAL is short for... Heuristically programmed ___ computer
61. Geog. feature
62. Steely Dan's "___" in the Years"

63. Prong
64. Positive gesture
65. 1974 Ray Stevens novelty song: "The ___"
66. Wood sorrels

Down

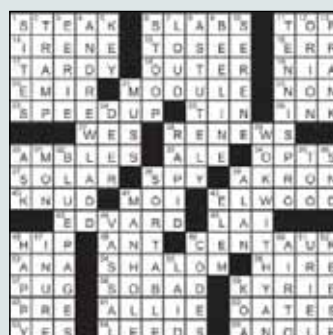
1. Birds like the Ibis
2. Unkeyed, in music

3. Chicago hit of 1973: "Just ___ ' ___"
4. Transitioned smoothly
5. ___ & Perrins (Worcestershire sauce brand)
6. Ques. partner
7. Matador's victim
8. Pieces of land

9. English actress Ms. Blunt
10. Spanish courtesy title
11. Arctic cutting tool: 2 wds.
12. Exclude
13. "___ Air" (1997)
18. Ms. Hurley, briefly
22. The baby cow's

24. Sir Guinness'
25. From long ago
27. "South Park" co-creator Mr. Parker
28. Down
31. Movie trailer, e.g.
33. Nightspot in Broadway musical Cabaret, Kit ___ Klub
34. Pedal
35. Operate
36. Missing from service, commonly
37. Queen Victoria's mother, Princess Victoria of Saxe-Coburg-___ (b.1786 - d.1861)
38. High-tech dot
39. Luxury label
40. Dermatology procedure, ___ peel
43. Kind of eel
44. "Okay then!", Brit-style
45. AECL = ___ Energy of Canada Limited
46. Spot to dock yachts
47. Locales
49. Thickening gums
50. Rent a house again
52. "So You Think You Can Dance" host Ms. Deeley
54. Lacquered metal-ware
56. Wine, in Paris
57. Prefix meaning "Equal"
59. Narrow inlet
60. Drawing liquid

Yesterday's Crossword



Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers



Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku



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GLS model shown*

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Limited model shown*



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CITY: 9.7L/100 KM*

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IN FREE TRADE PRICE
REDUCTION AND FREE
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HWY: 9.3L/100 KM
CITY: 11.6L/100 KM*



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